

3 Language Excellence

Presentation: A petition

1 Read the article and circle T (true) or F (false).

- | | |
|---|-------|
| 1 Hallstown has increased in size by 50% in the last ten years. | T / F |
| 2 The infrastructure around Hallstown has broken down. | T / F |
| 3 The council is now building another 5,000 houses. | T / F |
| 4 A rare species of newt lives in the countryside near Hallstown. | T / F |

Protect our town

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Hallstown is a busy market town. In the last decade it has doubled in size. New housing estates have been built and a derelict factory has been converted into flats. In addition, a new school and two surgeries have been constructed. However, the infrastructure is now at breaking point. There is only one bridge over the river that flows through the town, so there is heavy congestion. Council services are getting worse and worse and the community is less united.

The council is planning to build another 5,000 homes in the area. However, it is not planning to improve the infrastructure or build any more schools. One area earmarked for development is on the flood plain. In addition, it is considered the most beautiful countryside for miles around. It is full of wildlife, including one of the rarest species of newt in the UK.

This new development will destroy Hallstown unless the council reconsider its plans. We must act faster than big businesses and the council and stop this plan.

Please sign the petition to save our town.

Sign this petition

First name: _____

Last name: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

I'm signing because _____

sign

A petition

Petitions are used to show organizations, often the government, that there is a lot of support for an issue. It is important to state the cause simply and clearly so that people understand quickly what the issue is.

Remember!

We can use comparatives and superlatives to emphasize the importance of a situation. *Council services are getting worse and worse and the community is less united. It is full of wildlife, including one of the rarest species of newt in the UK.*

3 Language Excellence

Practice: A petition

Comparisons

less / more + adjective

The community is **less** united.

The shopping centre is **more** popular than before.

Adverb + than

We must act **faster than** big businesses.

Local people must speak **louder than** ever to be heard.

Comparative + comparative

Council services are getting **worse and worse**.

The population is becoming **better and better** at recycling.

Superlative

The **most beautiful** countryside for miles around.

This is **the largest** donation to the charity this year.

Typical errors

It is the ~~more~~ beautiful countryside for miles around. **X**

It is the **most** beautiful countryside for miles around. **✓**

Local people must speak ~~more~~ louder than ever to be heard. **X**

Local people must speak **louder** than ever to be heard. **✓**

The situation is ~~getting worse~~. **X**

The situation is **getting worse**. **✓**

1 Circle the correct words.

My son is now more / less responsible about saving water, having seen a documentary.

- 1 Recycling is **more** / **most** successful now that it is obligatory.
- 2 The government initiative to share car journeys was **less** / **least** effective than expected.
- 3 The children are getting **gooder and gooder** / **better and better** at recycling packaging.
- 4 The council programme to recycle batteries was **more** / **less** popular than expected, so it is going to expand the programme.
- 5 The school kitchen is getting **worse and worse** / **worser and worser** at composting food waste.

2 Complete the sentences with the correct form of the words in the box.

early fast loud soon well

The government representative couldn't arrive earlier than 10 o'clock.

- 1 The council members behaved _____ than we expected and didn't ignore us.
- 2 The new refuse collection programme was started _____ than the town expected, six months earlier in fact!
- 3 The local residents spoke _____ than I hoped and made a strong impression on the council.
- 4 The company reacted _____ than the residents anticipated and applied for planning permission almost immediately.

3 Complete the sentences with the correct form of the words in brackets.

Travelling by car is the easiest (easy) option but it's not very good for the environment.

- 1 Riding a bike is a _____ (healthy) way to get to work than taking the car.
- 2 Travelling on public transport is _____ (cheap) option for me.
- 3 As Tim's confidence increases he is getting _____ (good) grades at school.
- 4 That is _____ (low) price I have seen for that product.
- 5 The demonstrators shouted _____ (loud) than I expected, so I decided to join in.

Final Writing Task

A petition

Sign the online petition on page 5 and give two reasons for your support. Use the ideas in the article to help you.

- Include a comparison in your reason for supporting the petition.
I support this petition because I think Hallstown is the most beautiful town in the area.