

# Compared to your brother

## Making comparisons -the pattern

Stó:lō Shxweli Language Program

This story practises the comparative, the pattern which translates into English as *big/bigger, fast/faster, good/better, etc.* The Halq'emeylem pattern is formed with **yeláwel**.

**yeláw** can mean 'over', 'after', 'past', and sometimes also 'next'.

**yeláwel** is translated as 'more' here, and is used to form the comparative (e.g. tall, taller (=more tall) and tallest (=most tall)). **Yeláwel** is used to both say 'more' and 'most' and context will determine whether the 'more' or 'most' meaning is appropriate.



To create the **-er** form (e.g. **bigg-er**), you use **yeláwel** before the adjective.

yeláwel	híkw	<i>bigger</i>
	xwem/stím	<i>faster</i>
	éy	<i>better</i>
	tl'eqtameth'	<i>taller</i>
	schewót	<i>smarter</i>

If you want to compare to something else, and say something is \_\_\_\_\_-er than something else, you use **telí**.

For example: **yeláwel éy telí tl'á'altha** (he/she/it is better than me)

<b>Yeláwel</b>	híkw xwem éy	<b>telí</b>	tl'á'altha te letám te sqwemáy
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## Example Sentences

1. yeláwel lós **telí** tl'á'altha  
he's fatter **than** me (lit: (he is) more fat from/than me)
2. yeláwel **xítl'** tlówáyel **telí** kw'e cheláqelh  
it's colder today **than** yesterday
3. yeláwel éy  
he/she/it is better
4. yeláwel éy **telí** tl'á'altha  
he/she/it is better **than** me
5. tl'ó yeláwel éy  
that's the best/ that's better
6. yeláwel iyómex q'á:mi  
she's the prettiest girl
7. yeláwel kw'ómkw'em swíyeqe  
he's the strongest man
8. yeláwel p'éq' te Lhílheqey  
Mt Cheam is the whitest
9. yeláwel p'éq' tel swéta  
My sweater is whiter/whitest
10. yeláwel qél  
it's worse/it's the worst
11. yeláwel qéx te swás **telí** tl'á'altha  
He has more **than** I do
12. yeláwel qéx tel swá.  
I have (the) most.
13. yeláwel tl'áqt tel **xéltel** **telí** ta swá  
My pencil is longer **than** yours

