A question of comparatives

1 Read the following sentences and then choose a word from the box to fill in each gap. There may be two possibilities in some sentences.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>as</th>
<th>isn’t</th>
<th>the</th>
<th>slightly</th>
<th>prefer</th>
<th>quite</th>
<th>less</th>
<th>tiny</th>
<th>rather</th>
<th>nowhere</th>
<th>much</th>
<th>sooner</th>
<th>considerably</th>
<th>more</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

a) This restaurant isn’t quite as good value for money ______ the one we went to last night.
b) Philip is 160cm and John is 165cm, so John is ______ taller than Philip.
c) If I had to differentiate between the two locations, I’d say that the south of the island is a ______ bit warmer than the north of the island.
d) This is going to be a tough tennis match. Our doubles opponents look ______ better than us.
e) The university has expanded a lot in the last 5 years. It was ______ smaller 5 years ago.
f) This market ______ as bustling as the market we went to at the weekend.
g) It’s a very interesting city, but it isn’t ______ as diverse as our home town.
h) Frances is ______ near as talented as her sister at the piano.
i) I’d ______ speak to my manager now than wait until after the weekend.
j) ______ than leave now, I’d prefer to camp here next to the lake tonight.
k) My parents would ______ to live somewhere with a reasonable cost of living for their retirement.
l) The ______ you keep turning up at Anya’s flat unannounced, the ______ chance you have of her wanting to go on a date with you. You need to act a bit cooler!
m) The more time I spend in this tranquil coastal village, ______ more I would like to live here.

2 Think of a place you like to spend time. It can be a café, park, bar, home, garden or anywhere else. Write five sentences to describe it using the following comparative structures:

- slightly...than
- far.......than
- as + adjective + as
- not quite as....... 
- nowhere near as................

Swap your description with your partner. How different or similar are your chosen places?
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TEACHER’S NOTES:

**Aim:** to provide further practice of comparatives. This worksheet is designed to be used in conjunction with unit 2.2.

**Time:** 40 minutes

**Materials:** a copy of the worksheet for each student

1. Ask students to work together or alone to fill in the gaps in each sentence using a word from the box. Elicit answers from the class.

   | Answers: a) as  b) slightly  c) tiny  d) much/considerably  
   | e) considerably/much  f) isn’t  g) quite  h) nowhere  
   | i) sooner  j) rather  
   | k) prefer  l) more/less  m) the

2. Students use the comparatives to describe a place they enjoy spending time. Encourage students to use key vocabulary from p. 31 of the student book if appropriate. Monitor as they work to answer any questions. Students then swap with each other and read about each other’s chosen places. Encourage students to ask further questions if they would like to.