

Real-World Exception Sort Answer Key

Sample Responses

1. **Measurement Example:**

less: The cake needs **less than two cups** of sugar.

fewer: The baker used **fewer measuring cups** this time.

2. **Money Example:**

less: The book costs **less than ten dollars** online.

fewer: I have **fewer coins** in my wallet today.

3. **Time Example:**

less: The movie lasted **less than two hours**.

fewer: The student took **fewer breaks** while studying.

4. **Distance Example:**

less: The beach is **less than five miles** away.

fewer: There are **fewer road signs** on this route.

5. **Statistical or Numeric Example:**

less: There were **less than fifty students** in attendance.

fewer: The school had **fewer students** enroll this year.

Teacher's Guide

- **Skill Focus:** Teaches the **exceptions** where *less* may correctly modify countable nouns, especially in **measurements, money, time, distance, and numbers**.
- **Differentiation Tips:**
 - Review the general rule first: *fewer* for countable, *less* for uncountable. Then introduce exceptions.
 - Provide sentence frames to guide struggling learners ("less than ____ minutes," "fewer ____ items").
- **Extension Ideas:**
 - Ask advanced students to write a short explanation of **why** these exceptions make sense in context.
 - Challenge them to create a short "Grammar Myth Buster" poster explaining that *less* is not always wrong with countable nouns.