1. There are less markers in the cabinet today than yesterday.

**Answer:** There are **fewer** markers in the cabinet today than there were yesterday.

**Teaching Tip:** The word marker is a count noun because we can make it plural. I would also encourage students to complete the comparison by using “than [there were] yesterday.”

2. Chefs use less kilograms of flour making pastries than making bread.

**Answer:** Chefs use **fewer** kilograms of flour making pastries than making bread.

**Teaching Tip:** It is “fewer” kilograms of flour, but “less” flour.” Emphasize the fact that you can count kilograms (1, 2, 3, …) but you can’t “count” flour without indicating a count quantity such as ounces or grams. We can’t really say “one flour.”

3. Less automobiles cross the bridge at night than in the afternoon.

**Answer: Fewer** automobiles cross the bridge at night than in the afternoon.

4. Energy-efficient appliances consume less electricity than older appliances.

**Answer: Correct.** We cannot count the word electricity, so we “consume less electricity” but “fewer kilowatts.”

5. Energy-efficient appliances consume less kilowatts of electricity than older appliances.

**Answer:** Energy-efficient appliances consume **fewer** kilowatts of electricity than older appliances.

6. Janice exhibits less emotional outbursts than Alicia.

**Answer:** Janice exhibits **fewer** emotional outbursts than Alicia.

**Teaching Tip:** Impress upon students that what the sentence is talking about is “outbursts.” What type of outbursts? Emotional outbursts. You can count an outburst. If you can put make it plural you can count it.

Janice exhibits **less** emotion (you can’t count emotion) than Alicia.

Janice exhibits **fewer** emotional outbursts than Alicia.

7. Modern buildings use much less steel beams than older buildings.

**Answer:** Modern buildings use much **fewer** steel beams than older buildings.

8. This spring, I plan to spend less Euros travelling than I did last year.

**Answer:** This spring, I plan to spend **fewer** Euros travelling than I did last year.

**Teaching Tip:** Money is easy to explain because we can count it. Interestingly, however, the word money cannot be counted. We can count Euros, dollars, dinars, and pesos, but we cannot count money. So,

This spring, I plan to spend **less money** travelling than I did last year.

This spring, I plan to spend **fewer** **pesos** travelling than I did last year.

9. People spend less days vacationing than they did in the past.

**Answer:** People spend **fewer** days vacationing than they did in the past.

**Teaching Tip:** We cannot count time, but we can count days, hours, weeks, and minutes.

People spend **less time** vacationing than they did in the past.

People spend **fewer** **weeks** vacationing than they did in the past.

10. Peter has lost less weight than John because he does not eat less candy bars at snack time.

**Answer:** Peter has lost less weight than John because he does not eat **fewer** candy bars at snack time.

**Teaching Tip:** We cannot count the word weight. So we lose “less weight,” but we lose “fewer kilograms” or “fewer pounds.”

11. When Ali moved to Brisbane, he packed less bags than his sister.

**Answer:** When Ali moved to Brisbane, he packed **fewer** bags than his sister.

12. The winery shipped less barrels of wine this year.

**Answer:** The winery shipped **fewer** barrels of wine this year.

**Teaching Tip:** We cannot count the word wine, except in a very specific context (“the wines of Chilie” for example. So the winery ships **less wine** but **fewer barrels** of wine.

13. Chinese food uses less grams of cheese per serving than Mexican food.

**Answer:** Chinese food uses **fewer** grams of cheese per serving than Mexican food.

14. Florida ships less tons of sugar today than it did last decade.

**Answer:** Florida ships **fewer** tons of sugar today than it did last decade.

**Teaching Tip:** We cannot count the word “sugar” but we can count specific quantities of sugar. So Florida ships **less sugar** but **fewer tons** of sugar.