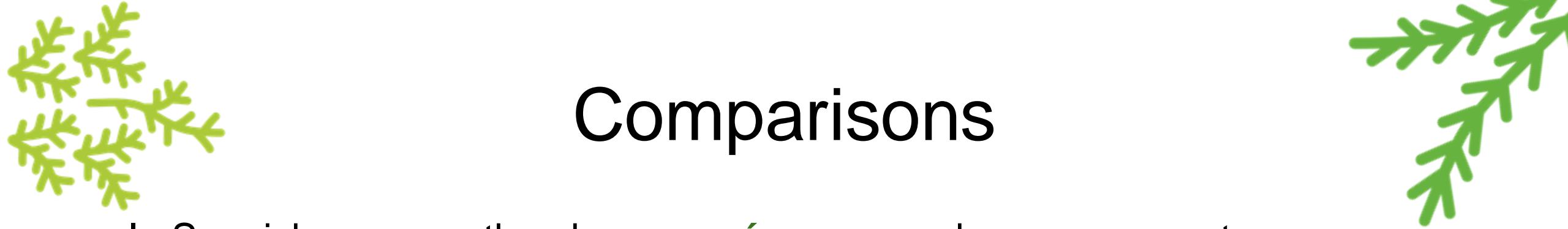


# Comparisons

Semillas: Elementary Spanish



# Comparisons

In Spanish, you use the phrases **más...que** and **menos...que** to compare two unequal entities in terms of quality, quantity, or degree.

- El desierto es **más seco que la selva.**
- *The desert is drier than the rainforest.*

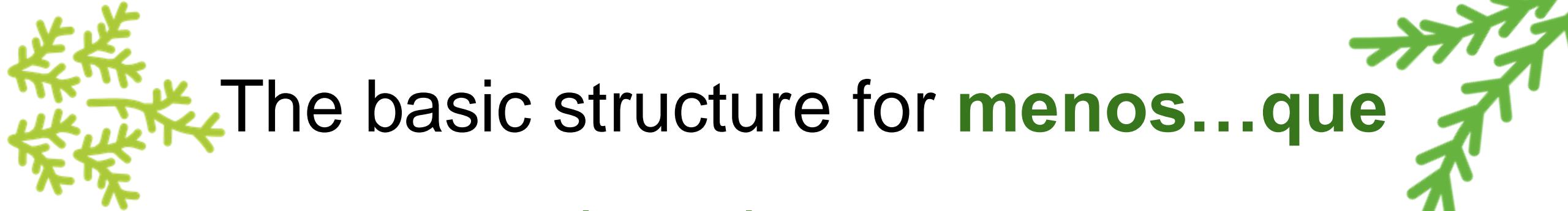
The example above uses the adjective **seco**. Remember that your adjectives still have to agree with the noun in gender and number (**desierto / seco**) when you use comparisons.

- You can use **más...que** and **menos...que** with adjectives, adverbs, and/or nouns.



# The basic structure for más...que

- **más + adjective/adverb/noun + que**
  - La casa en las montañas es **más cara que** la casa en la ciudad. *The house in the mountains is more expensive than the house in the city (adjective).*
  - Caminamos **más rápido que** ellos cuando acampamos. *We walk faster than they do when we camp (adverb).*
  - España tiene **más castillos que** México. *Spain has more castles than Mexico (noun).*



# The basic structure for **menos...que**

- **menos + adjective/adverb/noun + que**
  - Los viajes con familia son **menos divertidos que** los viajes con amigos. *Trips with family are less fun than trips with friends (adjective).*
  - Preparo la cena **menos frecuentemente que** mi esposo. *I prepare dinner less frequently than my husband (adverb).*
  - En los pueblos hay **menos tráfico que** en las ciudades. *In small towns there is less traffic than in cities (noun).*

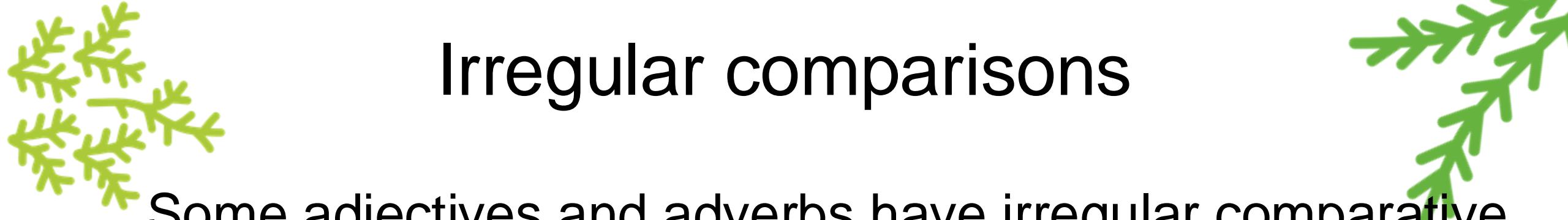


# Special cases and irregular comparisons



# The special case of numbers

- Notice that when you compare quantities with numbers, you use **de** instead of *que*.
- **más / menos + de + number**
  - Voy de vacaciones **más de tres** veces cada año. *I go on vacation **more than three** times each year.*



# Irregular comparisons

Some adjectives and adverbs have irregular comparative forms, and you do not use **más** or **menos** with them:

**Bueno/a = Mejor**

**Malo/a = Peor**

**Viejo/a = Mayor**

**Joven = Menor**

Este hotel es **mejor que** el otro. *This hotel is better than the other.*

Ese itinerario es **peor que** este. *That itinerary is worse than this one.*

Mi abuelo es **mayor que** tu abuela. *My grandfather is older than your grandmother.*