Less and least: exercise

Fill in the blanks with less, little, least or lesser.

1. The apple is ............................................. than the mango.
   less sweet
   less sweeter
   lesser sweet

2. Copper is ......................................... useful than iron.
   less
   lesser
   least

3. Silver is ........................................... precious than gold.
   less
   lesser
   least

4. This is the ............................................ useful of my gadgets.
5. Platinum is one of the ........................................... common minerals.

6. All other fruits are ............................................. sour than the wild apple.

7. The baby is ............................................. ugly than you.
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8. I used to have ........................................ energy than I have got now.

Answers

1. The apple is less sweet than the mango. (NOT The apple is less sweeter than the mango.)
2. Copper is less useful than iron.
3. Silver is less precious than gold.
4. This is the least useful of my gadgets.
5. Platinum is one of the least common minerals.
6. All other fruits are less sour than the wild apple.
7. The baby is less ugly than you.
8. I used to have less energy than I have got now.

Notes

Less and least are used to talk about inequality by focusing on the ‘lower’ end of the cycle. Less is the comparative form. It is followed by than. Least is the superlative form.