Mistakes in the use of adjectives

This grammar exercise tests your ability to use adjectives correctly.

1. She is .................................. than her sister.
   - stronger
   - more stronger

2. Bombay is ........................................ from Delhi than Agra.
   - further
   - farther

3. You have .......................................... books.
   - much
   - many

4. I have .............................................. work to do.
   - many
   - much
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5. She is growing ..................................................
everyday.

more and more strong
stronger and stronger

6. Let’s go ..................................................
somewhere quiet
quiet somewhere

7. Tell me the ........................................... news.

last
latest

8. I have ........................................... worries than
you.

fewer
less
lesser

9. He wasted ..................................................
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his all wealth
all his wealth

Here is a list of errors that ESL students often make in the use of adjectives.

Incorrect: She is more stronger than her sister.
Correct: She is stronger than her sister.
Avoid double comparatives. Adjectives of one syllable usually form their comparatives by adding –er to the positive. Longer adjectives take more.

Incorrect: Bombay is further from Delhi than Agra.
Correct: Bombay is farther from Delhi than Agra.
Further means ‘additional’. Farther is used to talk about distance.

Incorrect: You have much books.
Correct: You have many books.
Incorrect: I have many work to do.
Correct: I have much work to do.
Use much with uncountable nouns. Use many with countable nouns.

Incorrect: She is growing strong and strong everyday.
Correct: She is growing stronger and stronger everyday.
The comparative form of the adjective is used in structures like these.

Incorrect: Let’s go quiet somewhere.
Correct: Let’s go somewhere quiet.
The adjective usually goes after expressions like somewhere.

Incorrect: I can’t afford that a big car.
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Correct: I can’t afford that big a car.
Note the pattern: that + adjective + a/an + noun

Incorrect: Tell me the last news.
Correct: Tell me the latest news.
Latest means ‘the most recent’. Last means ‘the previous one’.

Incorrect: I have less worries than you.
Correct: I have fewer worries than you.
Use less with uncountable nouns. Use fewer with countable nouns.

Incorrect: He wasted his all wealth.
Correct: He wasted all his wealth.
Quantifiers like all, both and half go before possessives.