

Adjectives

Comparison of Adjectives

Positive Form

Use the positive form of the adjective if the comparison contains one of the following expressions:

- as ... as

Example: Jane is as tall as John.

- not as ... as / not so ... as

Example: John is not as tall as Arnie.

Comparative Form and Superlative Form (-er/-est)

- one-syllable adjectives (clean, new, cheap)

Positive Form	Comparative Form	Superlative Form
clean	cleaner	(the) cleanest

- two-syllable adjectives ending in -y or -er (easy, happy, pretty, dirty, clever)

Exceptions in spelling when adding -er / -est

- silent 'e' is dropped

Example: late-later-latest

- final 'y' after a consonant becomes *i*

Example: easy-easier-easiest

- final consonant after short, stressed vowel is doubled

Example: hot-hotter-hottest

Comparative Form and Superlative Form (more/most)

- adjectives of three or more syllables (and two-syllable adjectives not ending in -y/-er)

Positive Form	Comparative Form	Superlative Form
difficult	more difficult	most difficult

Comparative Form and Superlative Form (irregular comparisons)

Positive Form	Comparative Form	Superlative Form
good	better	best
bad / ill	worse	worst
little (amount)	less	least
little (size)	smaller	smallest
much / many	more	most
far (place + time)	further	furthest
far (place)	farther	farthest
late (time)	later	latest
late (order)	latter	last

near (place)	nearer	Nearest
near (order)	-	next
old (people and things)	older	oldest
old (people)	elder	eldest

EXERCISE 1

Fill in the correct form of the words in brackets (comparative or superlative).

1. My house is (big) bigger than yours.
2. This flower is (beautiful) _____ than that one.
3. This is the (interesting) _____ book I have ever read.
4. Non-smokers usually live (long) _____ than smokers.
5. Which is the (dangerous) _____ animal in the world?
6. A holiday by the sea is (good) _____ than a holiday in the mountains.
7. It is strange but often a coke is (expensive) _____ than a beer.
8. Who is the (rich) _____ woman on earth?
9. The weather this summer is even (bad) _____ than last summer.
10. He was the (clever) _____ thief of all.

EXERCISE 2

Fill in the comparison with *as ... as*.

1. John is (tall) _____ Glen.
2. Janet is (beautiful) _____ Jeniffer.
3. You are (crazy) _____ my sister.
4. We can run (fast) _____ they can.
5. My mom is (not / strict) _____ your mum.
6. Your mobile phone is (not / trendy) _____ mine.
7. Matrix II was (not / interesting) _____ Matrix I.
8. This yoghurt (not / taste / good) _____ the one I bought yesterday.
9. I can do (many / press-ups) _____ you.
10. I (not / earn / much / money) _____ you do.

Comparison of Adjectives

Adjectives are compared with -er/-est or with more/most

EXERCISE 3

Put the adjectives into the correct form.

1. Los Angeles is (large) _____ than Chicago.
2. But New York is the (large) _____ city of the United States.
3. The weather in Hollywood is (good) _____ than in New York or New Jersey.
4. Nestor Studios is the (old) _____ movie company in Hollywood.
5. Disneyland is (interesting) _____ than any other amusement park.

Positive, Comparative and Superlative Forms of Adjectives

- With the positive, comparative and superlative forms of adjectives you can express that something is for example *as good as* something else (positive form), *better* (comparative form) or *best* (superlative form).

EXERCISE 4

Fill in the correct form of the following adjectives.

- London is the (large) _____ city in Great Britain.
- No other British city has as (many) _____ inhabitants as London.
- The London underground, the tube, is the (old) _____ underground in the world.
- The Tower of London is one of the (famous) _____ London sights.
- Another sight is the London Eye. With its 135 metres, it is (tall) _____ than any other big wheel in the world.

Comparison (-er/-est)

	Comparative ending in -er	Superlative ending in -est
one-syllable adverbs (hard)	harder	hardest
adverbs with the same form as adjectives (early)	earlier	earliest

Comparison (more / most)

	Comparative formed with <i>more</i>	Superlative formed with <i>most</i>
adverbs ending in -ly (happily)	more happily	most happily

Irregular comparisons

Positive form	Comparative	Superlative
well	better	best
badly	worse	worst
ill	worse	worst
little	less	least
much	more	most
far (place + time)	further	furthest
far (place)	farther	farthest
late (time)	later	latest

EXERCISE 5

Fill in the correct adverb form (comparative or superlative) of the adjectives in brackets.

1. I speak English (fluent) more fluent now than last year.
2. She greeted me (polite) _____ of all.
3. She smiled (happy) _____ than before.
4. This girl dances (graceful) _____ of all.
5. Could you write (clear) _____ ?
6. Planes can fly (high) _____ than birds.
7. He had an accident last year. Now, he drives (careful) _____ than before.
8. Jim can run (fast) _____ than John.
9. Our team played (bad) _____ of all.
10. He worked (hard) _____ than ever before.

ANSWER

EXERCISE 1

1. My house is bigger than yours.
2. This flower is more beautiful than that one.
3. This is the most interesting book I have ever read.
4. Non-smokers usually live longer than smokers.
5. Which is the most dangerous animal in the world?
6. A holiday by the sea is better than a holiday in the mountains.
7. It is strange but often a coke is more expensive than a beer.
8. Who is the richest woman on earth?
9. The weather this summer is even worse than last summer.
10. He was the cleverest thief of all.

EXERCISE 2

1. John is as tall as Glen.
2. Janet is as beautiful as Jeniffer.
3. You are as crazy as my sister.
4. We can run as fast as they can.
5. My mom is not as strict as your mum.
6. Your mobile phone is not as trendy as mine.
7. Matrix II was not as interesting as Matrix I.
8. This yoghurt does not taste as good as the one I bought yesterday.
9. I can do as many press-ups as you.
10. I do not earn as much money as you do.

EXERCISE 3

1. Los Angeles is larger than Chicago.
2. But New York is the largest city of the United States.
3. The weather in Hollywood is better than in New York or New Jersey.
4. Nestor Studios is the oldest movie company in Hollywood.
5. Disneyland is more interesting than any other amusement park.

EXERCISE 4

1. London is the largest city in Great Britain.
2. No other British city has as many inhabitants as London.
3. The London underground, the tube, is the oldest underground in the world.
4. The Tower of London is one of the most famous London sights.
5. Another sight is the London Eye. With its 135 metres, it is taller than any other big wheel in the world.

EXERCISE 5

1. I speak English more fluently now than last year.
2. She greeted me most politely of all.
3. She smiled more happily than before.
4. This girl dances most gracefully of all.
5. Could you write more clearly?
6. Planes can fly higher than birds.
7. He had an accident last year. Now, he drives more carefully than before.
8. Jim can run faster than John.
9. Our team played worst of all.
10. He worked harder ever before.