



*Each pain makes you stronger,
each betrayal more intelligent,
every disappointment more skillful
and each experience wiser.*

Degree of Comparison

Adjectives of one syllable

Adjectives of one syllable add **-er** and **-est**.

Adjectives ending on 'e' just add **-r** and **-st**.

Some adjectives double the final consonant.

Adjective	Comparative	Superlative
small	small er	smallest
warm	warm er	warm est
old	old er	old est
nice	nice r	nice st
big	bigg er	bigg est

Adjectives of two syllables

Some adjectives of two syllables add **-er** and **-est**.

For adjectives ending in 'y' – cut **y** then add **-ier** and **-iest**.

Adjectives ending in **-ful**, **-less**, **-ing**, **-ed** use **more** and **most**.

Some other adjectives of two syllables use **more** and **most** (modern, famous, normal, correct, ...).

Adjective	Comparative	Superlative
narrow	narrow er	narrow est
happy	happ ier	happ iest
useful	more useful	most useful
boring	more boring	most boring
modern	more modern	most modern

Irregular adjectives

You will have to memorize these.

Adjective	Comparative	Superlative
good (well)	better	best
bad	worse	worst
little	less	least
much, many	more	most
far	farther, further	farthest
late	later	last, latest
old	older, elder	older, oldest

Note:

- a) **further/farther (adv) = longer (in distance)**
e.g. Barclays Bank is **further/farther** away than Lloyds.
further (adj) = more e.g. Let's hope there won't be any **further** delays. (NOT: ~~... farther delays~~)
- b) **elder/eldest (+noun) (adj) = for members of a family** e.g. My **elder** brother is a doctor.
But: My brother is **older** than me. (NOT: ~~elder than~~)

I. Put the adjectives in brackets into the comparative or superlative form.

1. Did you enjoy the film?
Yes. It was *funnier* / *the funniest* film I've ever seen.
2. James is very tall.
Yes. He's *taller* / *the tallest* boy in our class.
3. Was it a good party?
Yes. I left far *later* / *the latest* than I had intended to.
4. Did you like the black dress?
Yes, but it was far *expensiver* / *more expensive* than the blue one.
5. Why do you want to go to Spain?
Because it's much *warmer* / *the warmest* than England.
6. Do you enjoy your job?
Oh, yes. It's *the best* / *gooder* / *better* job I've ever had.
7. If you need any *farther* / *further* help. Just ask me.
Thank you. That's very kind of you.
8. My teacher is very clever.
Yes. She's the most intelligent / more intelligent woman I've ever met.
9. Dinosaurs were *biger* / *biggest* / *bigger* than houses.
I know. They were enormous.
10. How much did you pay for that bag?
£ 5. It was *the cheapest* / *cheapest* / *cheaper* one I could find.
11. That exam was really difficult.
I agree. It was a lot *the most difficult* / *more difficult* than I had expected.
12. Have you heard James playing the piano lately?
Yes, but he doesn't seem to be getting any *gooder* / *better* / *best*.

II. Choose the correct answer.

- 1) I've never drunk a better beer.
 - This is one of the most good beers I've ever drunk.
 - This is one of the best beers I've ever drunk.
 - This is one of the goodest beers I've ever drunk.

- 2) I've never seen a prettier girl.
 - This is one of the prettiest girls I've ever seen.
 - This is one of the best girls I've ever seen.
 - This is one of the most pretty girls I've ever seen.

- 3) I've never met a wiser man.
 - This is one of the most wise men I've ever met.
 - This is one of the wisest men I've ever met.
 - This is one of the wisest men I've never meeted.

- 4) I've never seen a more careful woman.
 - This is one of the most careful women I've ever seen.
 - This is one of the carefulest women I've ever seen.
 - This is one of the carefulest women I've ever seen.

- 5) I've never had a more reliable car.
 - This is one of the most reliable cars I've ever had.
 - This is one of the reliabler cars I've ever have.
 - This is one of the reliablest cars I've ever had.

- 6) I've never had a more trustworthy friend.
 - This is one of the trustworthiest friends I've ever had.
 - This is one of the trustworthy friends I've ever had.
 - This is one of the most trustworthy friends I've ever had.

- 7) I've never experienced a happier moment.
 - This is one of the happier moments I've ever experienced.
 - This is one of the most happy moments I've ever experienced.
 - This is one of the happiest moments I've ever experienced.

- 8) I've never done a more difficult exercise.
 - This is one of the difficultest exercises I've ever done.
 - This is one of the most difficult exercises I've ever done.
 - This is one of the most difficult exercises I've ever did.

9) They've never been to a more expensive restaurant.

- This is of the most expensive restaurants they've ever been.
- This is one of the expensivest restaurants they've ever been to.
- This is one of the most expensive restaurants they've ever been to.

10) Linda has never lived in a hotter country.

- This is one of the most hot countries Linda has ever lived in.
- This is one of the hottest countries Linda've ever lived in.
- This is one of the hottest countries Linda's ever lived in.

III. Correct the mistakes.

- 1 I'm shorter than you three inches.
- 2 Steve is older than I.
- 3 The little boy sang as a bird.
- 4 Paul is not as handsome than Tom.
- 5 She is a quite pretty girl.
- 6 Sally is the more taller girl in our class.
- 7 Let me know if you need any farther help.
- 8 Tracey studies hardly.

IV. Compare the following hobbies using the adjectives from the list.

artistic, easy to learn, tiring, expensive, cheap, relaxing



V. Choose the correct form of the comparative or superlative and complete the sentences with your own ideas.

- 1 In my opinion, ...*the tiger is the most dangerous*...
(dangerous) animal of all.
- 2 is (nice) place I have ever been to.
- 3 (sweet) sugar.
- 4 I can (good), but I can
..... even (good).
- 5 I think (difficult) subject of all.
- 6 (valuable) rubies.
- 7 (healthy) food of all.
- 8 (efficient) old ones.
- 9 (intelligent) person I have
ever met.
- 10 (expensive) silver jewellery.