

Comparatives and superlatives Feedback

Llengua estrangera per a l'ensenyament: anglès
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Adapted from an original ppt by Ferran Gesa

Irregular comparatives and superlatives

- Some adjs. allow for **both types of comparative and superlative forms**: clever, common, friendly, gentle, narrow, pleasant, polite, quiet, simple, serious.

e.g., clever – cleverer / more clever – the cleverest / the most clever

It is **the most simple / the simplest** exercise you can imagine.

He is **more friendly / friendlier** than his twin brother.

- Irregular** adjs.:

Adjective	Comparative	Superlative
Good	Better	The best
Bad	Worse	The worst
Far	Farther Further	The farthest The furthest
Old	Older Elder	The oldest The eldest

Modifying comparatives and superlatives

- We use **a bit, a little, slightly + comparative** to say that the difference is small.

A Ferrari is **slightly cheaper** than a Bentley.



- We use **a lot, much, far + comparative** to describe big differences.

My parents' house is **much more spacious** than my little apartment.



- We use **far, easily + superlative** to emphasise how large the difference is.

Burj Khalifa is **by far the tallest** building in the world.



- Less** and **the least** are the opposites of 'more' and 'the most' and can be used with all adjs. and advs.

I don't have much money; I bought **the least expensive** shirt I found.

Modifying comparatives and superlatives

- More, the most, less, the least + **uncountable nouns**
- More, the most, fewer, the fewest + **countable nouns**

There is **less water** in this river than two years ago. / We'll sell your house in **the least amount** of time.

Michael has **fewer friends** than me. / Going by plane will pose you **the fewest problems**.

- We use **as + adj. + as** to express equality.

This book is **as interesting as** the other one.

Book 1 / Book 2



- We use **not quite + as + adj. + as** to describe small differences.

June **isn't quite as intelligent as** her sister. (= she's a bit more intelligent)

Sister June



- We use **not nearly + as + adj. + as** to describe big differences.

June **isn't nearly as intelligent as** her sister. (= she's a lot more intelligent)

Sister

June



Modifying comparatives and superlatives

- **As much** + uncountable **N** + as
As many + plural **countable N** + as

I have **as much work as** yesterday. / There weren't **as many people as** I expected.

- When we want to say that two changes happen together and that the second one is the result of the first, we tend to use **the + comparative, the + comparative**.

The more you study, **the higher** the grade you'll get.

Doubts? Questions?



Some examples taken from your quizzes...

Why are these **wrong**?

Write the second sentence using the prompts, the correct superlative form and the verb *to be*. Do not add extra spaces after the last words.

Example: His work is great. he / talented artist in our school.

He is the most talented artist in our school.

1. The phone is cheap. it / expensive one in the shop.

It is ❌ in the shop.

2. Cindy and her brother are very sensible. they / practical people I know

They are ❌ I know.

3. These are comedies. this one / funny film I've seen.

This one is ❌ I've seen.

4. I enjoyed my birthday. it / good one I've had.

It was ❌ I've had.

5. Jack isn't very friendly. he / sociable boy in the class.

He is ❌ in the class.

Some examples taken from your quizzes...

Why are these **wrong**?

Look at the following sentences and choose the right word to fit into the blank.

Hi Suzan,

I'm having a wonderful time in Los Angeles. The weather is ✓ and drier
 ✓ in England and Americans are friendlier than ✓ . The food is better

here; it is not the same ✗ the food in England at all! From all the countries I've
been to, I think English food is the ✗ pleasant. It's awful. Yesterday I had the best
hamburger I've ever eaten!

The hotel is beautiful. I think it's not as ✗ the hotel we stayed in New York,
but it's ✗ comfortable. They say that Los Angeles is one of the most
expensive cities in the world, but actually I'm not spending ✗ money as I
thought. I'll phone you when I get back.

Love,

Megan

Some extra practice

1 Some of these sentences are not correct.

Change the incorrect words.

- 1 The conference was more successful that I'd expected.
- 2 These swimming goggles are far more effective than my old ones.
- 3 That was the worse job interview I've ever had.
- 4 I find working in a team more efficient than working on my own.
- 5 Ronaldo is by far the better player I have ever seen.
- 6 The high jump is my less favourite field event.
- 7 There isn't much different between the two players.
- 8 The tournament went on almost as longer as last year.
- 9 I think the new pool is the same length as the old one.
- 10 My son can speak French almost so well as me.
- 11 I've never seen such a closer match; it was amazing.
- 12 The more effort you make, the most success you will have.

2 Match the sentences in A to the sentences in B with the same meaning.

A

- 1 I need to train a little harder.
- 2 I need to train much harder.
- 3 I don't need to train nearly as much.
- 4 I need to train almost as much as last year.
- 5 I need to train as much as last year.

B

- a I need to train a lot more.
- b I need to train slightly less.
- c I need to make a bit more effort.
- d I need to train the same amount.
- e I need to train quite a lot less.

Some extra practice - KEY

Exercise 1

1. The conference was more successful **than** I'd expected.
2. Correct
3. That was the **worst** job interview I've ever had.
4. Correct
5. Ronaldo is by far the **best** player I have ever seen.
6. The high jump is my **least** favourite field event.
7. There isn't much **difference** between the two players.
8. The tournament went on almost as **long** as last year.
9. Correct
10. My son can speak French almost **as** well as me.
11. I've never seen such a **close** match; it was amazing.
12. The more effort you make, the **more** success you will have.

Exercise 2

1 - C / 2 - A / 3 - E / 4 - B / 5 - D

And now... please do **exercises 1, 3a and 4a on page 19 SB.**