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Grammar Reference

Comparative adjectives

Comparative adjectives are used to compare two or more things.

Example:

This school is **bigger than** my high school.

This artist is **more famous than** that artist.

Form:

.... **comparative adjective + than +**

Note:

Use “than” to introduce the second noun in a comparative sentence.

Rules	Adjectives	Comparatives
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For one-syllable adjectives, add – er 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> old cheap 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> older cheaper
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For adjectives ending in one vowel and one consonant, double the last consonant and add -er 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> big hot 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> bigger hotter
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For one or two-syllable adjectives ending in consonant and y, change –y to – ier on 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> dry healthy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> drier healthier
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Add more before adjectives with two or more syllables 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> handsome beautiful 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> more handsome more beautiful
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some adjectives are irregular 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> good bad far 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> better worse further

Superlative adjectives

Superlative adjectives are used to compare one thing to all the others in a group.

Example:

The red t-shirt is **the cheapest** in the store.

This is **the most interesting** book in the library.

Form:

....+ the + superlative adjective +

Note:

“The” is usually used in a superlative.

Rules	Adjectives	Superlatives
<ul style="list-style-type: none">For one-syllable adjectives, add -est	<ul style="list-style-type: none">oldcheap	<ul style="list-style-type: none">the oldestthe cheapest
<ul style="list-style-type: none">For adjectives ending in one vowel and one consonant, double the last consonant and add -est	<ul style="list-style-type: none">bighot	<ul style="list-style-type: none">the biggestthe hottest
<ul style="list-style-type: none">For one or two-syllable adjectives ending in consonant and y, change -y to -iest on	<ul style="list-style-type: none">dryhealthy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">the driestthe healthiest
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Add the most before adjectives with two or more syllables	<ul style="list-style-type: none">handsomebeautiful	<ul style="list-style-type: none">the most handsomethe most beautiful
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Some adjectives are irregular	<ul style="list-style-type: none">goodbadfar	<ul style="list-style-type: none">the bestthe worstthe furthest

Note: Some two-syllable adjectives ending in a consonant and y usually take “-er/-est” although “more or most” is possible:

healthy healthier / more healthy than
healthiest / the most healthy
happy happier / more happy than
happiest / the most happy

Some examples: dirty, easy, empty, funny, happy, heavy, hungry, lovely, lucky, pretty, silly, thirsty, tidy.