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GRAMMAR - The comparatives

Comparatives are used to compare two things and to highlight the superiority, inferiority or equality of one term to another.

SUPERIORITY	EQUALITY	INFERIORITY
a) short adjectives: [*] adjective + -ER THAN Example: Peter is taller than Sandra. b) Long adjectives: [*] MORE + adjective + THEN Example: A Ferrari is more expensive than a Mini.	short and long adjectives: AS + adjective + AS Example: English is as easy as German.	short and long adjective: LESS+adj + THAN Example: July is less cold than January.

* **short adjectives:** are 1-syllable adjectives and 2-syllable adjectives ending in **-y (ex: pretty)**.

* **long adjectives:** all the other adjectives.

Orthographic changes:

- If the adjective ends in **"y"** the **"y"** becomes **"i"**: **heavy- heavier**.

- If the adjective ends in **"e"** only an **"r"** is needed: **wise- wiser**.

- If the adjective ends with a **"single vowel + consonant"** the consonant is doubled and you add **"er"**: **big-bigger**.

Irregular forms:

These adjectives and adverbs have irregular comparative forms.

- **Good/ well- better**. Example: the garden looks better now.

- **Bad/ badly- worse**. Example: is your teacher better? No, she is worse.

- **Far/ further**. Example: It's a long walk from here to the station. Further than I think.

* further= can also mean **"more"** or **"additional"**. Example: for further information check the website.

Exercise 1. Complete the sentences using a comparative form.

1. It's too noisy here. Can we go somewhere (quiet) quieter ?
2. The coffee is very weak. I like it a bit (strong) stronger.
3. The hotel is surprisingly big. I expected it to be (small) smaller.
4. The hotel is surprisingly cheap. I expected it to be (expensive) more expensive.
5. The weather is too cold in this country. I'd like to live somewhere (warm) warmer.
6. My job is a bit boring sometimes. I'd like to do something (exciting) excitinger.
7. I'm surprised how easy it is to use the computer. I thought it would be (difficult) difficulter.
8. Your work isn't very good. I'm sure you can do (good) gooder.
9. Don't worry. The situation isn't so bad. It could be (bad) badder.
10. I'm surprised we got here so quickly. I expected the journey to take (long) longer.
11. You're talking very loudly. Can you speak a bit (quietly) quietlyer ?
12. You're standing too near the camera. Can you move a bit (far) farer away?
13. You were a bit depressed but you look (happy) happier today.

Exercise 2. Complete the sentences using as...as.

1. I'm quite tall but you are taller. I'm not as tall as you.
2. My salary is high but yours is higher. My salary isn't as high as yours.
3. You know a bit about cars but I know more. You don't know as much about cars as me.
4. I'm very nervous but you are more. I'm not as nervous as you.
5. I feel tired and you too. I'm as tired as you.

Exercise 3. Rewrite these sentences so that they have the same meaning.

1. Jack is younger than he looks. Jack isn't as old as he looks.
2. I don't spend as much money as you. You spend more money than me.

3. The station is nearer than I thought. The station isn't as far as I thought_____.

4. The meal doesn't cost as much as I expected. The meal is not as expensive as I thought_____.

5. I go out less than before. I don't come out the same_____.

6. Her hair isn't as long as it was. She has shorter hair_____.

Exercise 4. Write the adjectives in brackets in the comparative form.

1. John Lennon was (old) as older as Paul McCartney.

2. Some people think the Met is (good) better the Louvre.

3. Eric was (afraid) afraidder in Harlem _____ in the Subway.

4. Cats are (nice) nicer dogs.

5. Cartoons are (good) better music programmes.

6. The Empire State is (big) bigger the Chrysler Building.

7. Barcelona is (small) smaller Madrid, but (big) bigger Valencia.

8. Scotland is colder (cold) than the South of England.

9. I like cats - they're interestinger (interesting) than dogs.

10. Charity shops are cheaper (cheap) than other shops.

11. Buy that MP3 player. It's better (good) than the other one.

12. I spend a lot of time with Petra - she's friendlier (friendly) than the other students.

13. In winter, Venice is quieter (quiet) than in summer.

14. The maths exam was bad, but physics was even worse (bad)!

Exercise 1. Complete the sentences. Use a **superlative or comparative**. Completa las oraciones usando superlativos o comparativos.

1. We stayed at _____ cheaper _____ hotel in the town (cheap).
2. Our hotel was _____ cheaper _____ than all the others in the town (cheap).
3. The United States is very large but Canada is _____ larger _____ (large).
4. What's _____ longest _____ river in the world? (long).
5. He was a bit depressed yesterday but he looks _____ happier _____ today (happy).
6. Today it's an awful day. It is _____ badly _____ day of my life (bad).
7. What is _____ popularer _____ sport in your country? (popular).
8. Everest is _____ higher _____ mountain in the world (high).
9. This is _____ enjoyabler _____ holidays we have ever had (enjoyable).
10. I prefer this chair to the other one. It's _____ confortabler _____ (comfortable).

Exercise 2. Complete the chart. Completa la table con el **comparativo o superlativo** faltante.

Adjective	Comparative	Superlative
cold	colder	the coldest
high	higher	highest
hot	hotter	the hottest
dangerous	the most dangerous	Most dangerous
good	better	The best
bad	worse	The worst

Exercise 3. Write the adjectives in brackets in the **superlative form**.

1. Samantha is the (pretty) __prettiest__ _____ girl that Paul has ever met.
2. I think that King Kong was the (bad) ____the worst_____ film ever!
3. Mounth Everest is the (high) __highest_____ mountain in the world.
4. Our English teacher is the (good) ____hetter_____ teacher ever!
5. My room is the (clean) ____cleanest_____ room in my house.
6. Ron is the (clever) __cleverest_____ person I've ever met.
7. The Millenium Star is one of the (expensive) __most expensive_____ diamonds in the world.
8. David is ____nicest_____ (nice) of the three brothers.
9. Why do you always buy ____most espensivest_____ (expensive) dress in the shop?
10. What's ____most quickly_____ (quick) way to get to the town centre?
11. I think Venice is __most beautiful _____ (beautiful) city in the world.
12. Sarah is _friendliest_____ (friendly) girl in my office.
13. Chemistry is my ____the worst_____ (bad) subject.
14. I think Imagine is ____better _____ (good) song John Lennon wrote.

Exercise 1. Complete the sentences with “too” or “enough”.

1. I'm leaving the coffee to cool for a minute because it is too hot to drink.
2. He isn't strong enough to lift that heavy box.
3. There aren't enough policemen in our town.
4. Do you have enough information to help me with this problem?
5. It is too difficult to do for a little child.
6. I do not have enough time to prepare dinner.
7. I 'm not buying the car because it is too expensive.
8. He isn't working hard enough to pass the exam.
9. My mum can't sleep because she drinks too much coffee.
10. She isn't old enough to start driving.

GRAMMAR - Adverbs

- An adverb is a word used to modify a verb, an adjective, or another adverb.

For example:

She swims quickly.

(Here, the adverb “quickly” modifies the verb swims.)

She swims extremely quickly.

(Here, the adverb “extremely” modifies the adverb quickly.)

She is an extremely quick swimmer.

(Here, the adverb “extremely” modifies the adjective “quick”.)

- Many adverbs are formed from adjectives. The basic rule is that -ly is added to the end of the adjective:

For example: slow- slowly.

- If the adjective already ends in -y, the -y usually changes to -i.

Example: unnecessary- unnecessarily.

- If the adjective ends with a consonant followed by -le, replace the final -e with -y on its own:

Example: terrible- terribly

Exercise 2. Complete the sentences with an adverb or an adjective. Use the words in the box.

quickly safe brilliant loudly late careless hard happy easy slowly

1. The bus drove _____ over the bridge.
2. You mustn't talk _____ in a theatre.
3. A _____ person drove into that tree yesterday.
4. Many people think Pierce Brosnan is a _____ actor.
5. If you're _____, I'm happy.
6. Gretchen works _____ on her homework every night.
7. The train leaves at 6.00. Don't be _____!
8. I can smell gas. Is it _____ in here?
9. I couldn't do the first question, but the second question was _____.
10. The girl walked _____ through the park.

Exercise 3. Write a sentence with each one of the adverbs given.

1. loudly _you are_ annoying _____
2. politely _____
3. early _____
4. well _____