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3

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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.

<sup>\*</sup> short adjectives: are 1-syllable adjectives and 2-syllable adjectives ending in -y (ex: pretty).

## 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 form here to the station. Further than I think.
- \* further= can also mean **"more"** or **"additional"**. Example: for further information check the website.

<sup>\*</sup> long adjectives: all the other adjectives.

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)more exciting
7. I'm surprised how easy it is to use the computer. I thought it would be (difficult)more difficult
8. Your work isn't very good. I'm sure you can do (good)better
9. Don't worry. The situation isn't so bad. It could be (bad)badly
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)quietlier?
12. You're standing too near the camera. Can you move a bit (far)futher away?
13. You were a bit depressed but you look (happy)happiertoday.
Exercise 2. Complete the sentences using asas.
1. I'm quite tall but you are taller. I'm not <u>as tall as</u> you.
2. My salary is high but yours is higher. My salary isn'tas high as your
3. You know a bit about cars but I know more. You don'tas smart as me
4. I'm very nervous but you are more. I'm notas nerveous as you
5. I feel tired and you too. I'mas 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 <u>as old as</u> he looks.
2. I don't spend as much money as you. Youas richer as me
3. The station is nearer than I thought. The station isn'tas futher as the cinema
4. The meal doesn't cost as much as I expected. The meal as better as the
tacos
5. I go out less than before. I don't as faster as you
6. Her hair isn't as long as it was. She hasas younger as me

Exercise 4. Write the adjectives in brackets in the comparative form.
1. John Lennon was (old) <u>as older as_</u> Paul McCartney.
2. Some people think the Met is (good) _as better as the Louvre.
3. Eric was (afraid)as afraider in Harlemas in the Subway.
4. Cats are (nice)as nicer as dogs.
5. Cartoons are (good)as better as music programmes.
6. The Empire State is (big) _as biger as the Chrysler Building.
7. Barcelona is (small) _as smaller as Madrid, but (big)as biger asValencia.
8. Scotland isas colder as (cold) than the South of England.
9. I like cats - they're _as more interesting as (interesting) than dogs.
10. Charity shops areas cheaper as (cheap) than other shops.
11. Buy that MP3 player. It's _as better as (good) than the other one.
12. I spend a lot of time with Petra - she's _as more friendly as_ (friendly) than the other
students. 13. In winter, Venice isas quieter as (quiet) than in summer.
14. The maths exam was bad, but physics was evenas worse as (bad)!

### **GRAMMAR** - The superlatives

Superlatives are used to express the highest degree of quality. We use a superlative adjective to describe

#### SUPERLATIVE OF SUPERIORITY

SHORT ADJECTIVES:

LONG ADJECTIVES:

THE + adjective + EST

Example: Tom is the tallest boy of the school.

THE MOST + adjective

Example: This is the most pleasant place on Earth.

#### SUPERLATIVE OF INFERIORITY

SHORT ADJECTIVES AND LONG ADJECTIVES:

THE LEAST + adjective

Example: This is the least interesting movie of the year.

- After superlatives we use "in" with places (towns, buildings, etc.)

Example: what is the longest river in the world?

- We also use "in" for organizations and groups of people (a class/team/company)

Example: Who is the best student in the class?

- We use "of" for a period of time.

Example: What is the hottest month of the year?

### Irregular forms

Good the best

Example: She's the best singer in the world.

Bad the worst

Example: He's the worst football player.

Far farthest

Example: Seattle is the farthest city form here.

# El grado superlativo

El grado superlativo denota la calidad en el grado más alto y como en español, se usa "the" delante del adjetivo en la forma superlativa (véase más adelante).

# Ejemplos:

Juan is the fastest .(Juan es el más rápido.)

Angela's room is the cleanest.(La habitación de Angela es la más limpia.)

I am the tallest.(Soy el más alto.)

New York is the biggest city in the United States. (Nueva York es la ciudad más grande de los Estados Unidos.)

Nota: Si el adjetivo es posesivo, no se usa "the". Además no se usa "the" si comparamos algo con si mismo.

Ejemplos:

His smartest student is Lisa.(Su estudiante más lista es Lisa.)

New York is coldest in January. (Nueva York es más frío en enero.)

# Form (Forma)

Hay unas reglas para formar el comparativo y superlativo.

1. Para adjetivos de una sílaba:

Comparativo	Superlativo
añade: " <b>-er</b> "	añade: "-est"
• faster	• fastest

2. Para adjetivos de una sílaba que terminan en "e":

Comparativo	Superlativo
añade: " <b>-r</b> "	añade: " <b>-st</b> "
o nicer	o nicest

3. Para adjetivos de una sílaba que terminan en consonante + vocal + consonante:

Comparativo	Superlativo
añade: consonante + " <b>-er</b> " <b>⊙</b> hotter	añade: consonante + " <b>-est</b> "  • hottest

4. Para adjetivos de dos silabas que terminan en "y":

Comparativo	Superlativo	
sustituye <b>"y"</b> por: " <b>-ier</b> "	sustituye <b>"y"</b> por: " <b>-iest</b> "	
• funnier	• funniest	

5. Para adjetivos de dos o más silabas:

Comparativo	Superlativo	
añade: "more"/"less"	añade: "the most"/"the least"	
o more beautiful	• the most beautiful	
less beautiful	• the least beautiful	

6. Adjetivos irregulares:

Adjetivo	Comparativo	Superlativo
<b>⊙</b> good	<b>o</b> better	• best
• bad	• worse	• worst
• far	• further	• furthest

Exercise 1. Complete the sent usando superlativos o compa		lative or comparative	. Completa las oraciones
1. We stayed atthe che		hotel in the towr	ı (cheap).
2. Our hotel wasas cheape	r as	than all the other	s in the town <mark>(cheap)</mark> .
3. The United States is very lar	ge but Canada is _	_as larger as Rusia_	(large).
4. What'sthe longest	riv	er in the world? <mark>(long</mark>	).
5. He was a bit depressed yest	erday but he looks	sas happiest	today <mark>(happy)</mark> .
6. Today it's an awful day. It is	the worst		day of my life (bad).
7. What isthe populare	est	sport in yo	our country? (popular).
8. Everest isthe highest_		mou	ıntain in the world <mark>(high)</mark>
9. This isthe most enjoy	oyable	holidays we have	ever had <mark>(enjoyable)</mark> .
10. I prefer this chair to the oth	ner one. It'sthe r	most comfortable	(comfortable).
Exercise 2. Complete the char	t. Completa la tabl	e con el <b>comparativo</b>	o superlativo faltante.
Adjective Comparative Super	lative		
cold Colder the coldest			
high Higher highest			
hot Hotter the hottest			
dangerous the more dangero	us The most dange	erous	
good better The best			
bad worse Worst			

Exercise 3. Write the adjectives in brackets in the superlative form.
1. Samantha is the (pretty)prettyest girl that Paul has ever met.
2. I think that King Kong was the (bad)worst film ever!
3. Mounth Everest is the (high) highest mountain in the world.
4. Our English teacher is the (good)the best 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)the most expensive diamonds in the
world. 8. David isnicest (nice) of the three brothers.
9. Why do you always buythe most expensive (expensive) dress in the shop?
10. What'squickest (quick) way to get to the town centre?
11. I think Venice isthe most beautiful (beautiful) city in the world.
12. Sarah isfriendliest (friendly) girl in my office.
13. Chemistry is myworst (bad) subject.
14. I think Imagine is the best (good) song John Lennon wrote.

### GRAMMAR - Too and enough

- "Too" and "enough" modify adjectives, adverbs and nouns.

"Too" means more than what is needed. "Enough" means sufficient.

Examples (adjectives): He is too old to play football with the kids.

Dave is intelligent enough to do the right thing.

Examples (adverbs): You're not working fast enough.

I don't have enough time.

Examples (nouns): He has too many friends.

He has too much patience.

- "Enough" comes after adjectives and adverbs:

Example (adjective): He isn't old enough to watch this program.

Example (adverb): We're not walking quickly enough.

- "Enough" may also precede nouns:

Example: We have enough money.

- "Too" comes before adjectives and adverbs:

Example (adjective): It's too hot to wear that coat.

Example (adverb): I was driving too fast.

- "Too" may also come before nouns when it is used with the expressions "too much" and "too many".

"Too much" is used before uncountable nouns.

Example: There is too much salt in this food.

- "Too many" is used before countable nouns.

Example: There are too many students in this classroom.

Exercise 4. 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.

#### **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.)

10. She isn't old \_\_enough\_\_\_\_ to start driving.

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 adjecttive:

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 5. Complete the sentences with and adverb or an adjective. Use the words in the
box.
quickly safe brilliant loudly late careless hard happy easy slowly
1. The bus droveslowly over the bridge.
2. You mustn't talkloudly in a theatre.
3. Acareless person drove into that tree yesterday.
4. Many people think Pierce Brosnan is abrillant actor.
5. If you'rehappy, I'm happy.
6. Gretchen workslate on her homework every night.
7. The train leaves at 6.00. Don't beeasy!
8. I can smell gas. Is itsafe in here?
9. I couldn't do the first question, but the second question washard
10. The girl walkedquicklythrough the park.
Exercise 6. Write a sentence with each one of the adverbs given.
1. loudly I pinch myself and scream loudly
2. politely the gentlemen serve you politely

3. early \_\_\_\_the party start so early \_\_\_\_

4. well \_\_\_\_\_Renato juega so well soccer\_\_\_\_\_