

## Adjective : Degrees of Comparison

- Adjectives used to describe, qualify or modify a noun in comparison with another noun are called as degree of comparison.
- Degree of comparison is used when we compare one thing or person with another.
- There are three degrees of comparison.

1. Positive degree
2. Comparative degree
3. Superlative degree

Examples :

- a) Rahul is a tall boy.
- b) Harish is taller than Rahul
- c) Arun is the tallest among them.

- **Rules for Forming of Comparative and Superlative Degrees:**

1. The adjective forms in the comparative have the ending–‘**er**’ to the word. A superlative degree is created by adding ‘**est**’ to the adjective.

Examples:

Positive	Comparative	Superlative
Tall	Taller	Tallest
Kind	Kinder	Kindest
Sweet	Taller	Tallest
Bold	Bolder	Boldest
Cold	Colder	Coldest
Fast	Faster	Fastest
Great	Greater	Greatest
Young	Younger	Youngest
Small	Smaller	Smallest
Strong	Stronger	Strongest

2. If the positive degree of adjective ends with the letter ‘**e**’, then the letter ‘**r**’ is added to form the comparative degree and ‘**st**’ is added to form the superlative degree.

Examples:

Positive	Comparative	Superlative
White	Whiter	Whitest
Large	Larger	Largest
Fine	Finer	Finest
Noble	Nobler	Noblest
Simple	Simpler	Simpliest
Brave	Braver	Bravest

3. The letter '**i**' is added before '**er**' and '**est**' for a comparative and superlative degree.

Examples:

Positive	Comparative	Superlative
Lazy	Lazier	Laziest
Costly	Costlier	Costliest
Dry	Drier	Driest
Mercy	Mercier	Merciest
Happy	Happier	Happiest
Heavy	Heavier	Heaviest
Wealthy	Wealthier	Wealthiest

4. Spelling comparative: if the positive degree has only one syllable and ends with one consonant, and the consonant is followed by a vowel, **this consonant is doubled before adding 'er' in the comparative degree and by adding 'est' in the superlative degree.**

Examples:

Positive	Comparative	Superlative
Hot	Hotter	Hottest
Sad	Sadder	Saddest
Dim	Dimmer	Dimmest
Thin	Thinner	Thinnest
Fat	Fatter	Fattest

5. Sometimes adjectives cannot be made into comparative form by changing spelling, so a word is added before the adjective. For adjectives of two syllables or more than two-syllable, add '**more**' before it to form the comparative and '**most**' to form the superlative degree of comparison.

Examples:

Positive	Comparative	Superlative
Beautiful	More Beautiful Less beautiful	Most Beautiful Least beautiful
Faithful	More Faithful Less faithful	Most Faithful Least Faithful
Attractive	More Attractive Less attractive	Most Attractive Least attractive
Careful	More Careful Less careful	Most Careful Least careful
Famous	More Famous Less famous	Most Famous Least famous
Difficult	More Difficult Less difficult	Most Difficult Least difficult

6. With the change in degree, some adjectives observe the change of word; instead of spelling change, the new words are used.

Examples:

Positive	Comparative	Superlative
Good/Well	Better	Best
Much	More	Most
Bad	Worse	Worst
Far	Farther	Farthest
Many	More	Most

### EXERCISE

A. Write the comparative and superlative forms of the adverbs below.

Adverb Comparative Superlative

Ex. fast                      faster than                      the fastest

- |                |       |       |
|----------------|-------|-------|
| 1. hard        | _____ | _____ |
| 2. carefully   | _____ | _____ |
| 3. early       | _____ | _____ |
| 4. quickly     | _____ | _____ |
| 5. slowly      | _____ | _____ |
| 6. beautifully | _____ | _____ |
| 7. well        | _____ | _____ |
| 8. clearly     | _____ | _____ |
| 9. late        | _____ | _____ |
| 10. far        | _____ | _____ |
| 11. badly      | _____ | _____ |
| 12. fluently   | _____ | _____ |

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