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Adjectives

Talking about people and things, and comparatives and superlatives

_be_ + adjective + preposition

In this unit you learn to use adjectives to talk about people and things. You also learn more about comparative and superlative forms.

When you want to describe people or things, you can use the verb **be** and an adjective.

*I'**m cold**.*
*She'**s kind**.*

You can use adverbs like **very** and **really** in front of many adjectives.

*Paul's **very tall**.*
*These questions are **really important**.*

Adjectives have comparative (**taller**) and superlative (**the tallest**) forms, so you can compare two things or people.

*John's house is **older** than mine.*
*She's **the tallest** girl in the school.*

For most longer adjectives, you say **more** or **the most** before the adjective.

*I think geography is **more interesting** than chemistry.*
*Clara is **the most beautiful** girl I know.*

You can make comparisons using **not as ... as ...**, **less ... than ...** and **the least** ... .

- **not as ... as ...**

  *Simon isn**'t as intelligent as** Anna.(Anna is **more intelligent than** Simon.)*

- **less ... than ...**

  You can also use **less ... than ...** with most longer adjectives.

  *Reading books is **less interesting than** playing computer games.*
  *(Playing computer games is **more interesting than** reading books.)*

- **the least ...**

  *Why don't you buy these shoes? They're **the least expensive**. (the cheapest)*

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Some adjectives are different from the examples above.

Adjective	Comparative	Superlative
good	better	best
bad	worse	worst

You need to use a preposition after some common adjectives.

Preposition	Adjective
at	good at, the worst at
of	fond of, afraid of
with	angry with, friendly with
about	worried about, excited about
to	kind to, unkind to

*I was always **good at** maths at school.*
*My mum's really **afraid of** spiders.*
*I was late for school and my teacher was very **angry with** me.*
*I'm really **excited about** my holidays.*
*Sam was very **kind to** me on my first day at work.*
*My brother's **better** at tennis than me.*

Exercise 1

Choose the correct word or words.

1 The **tall / taller / tallest** building I saw in Paris was the Eiffel Tower.
2 Anita is **smart / smarter / smartest** than all the girls in my class.
3 It's **hot / hotter / hottest** today than yesterday.
4 This ring was the **expensive / more expensive / most expensive** in the shop.
5 This book is less **heavy / heavier / heaviest** than that one.

Exercise 2

Put the correct word in each gap.

colder | expensive | fastest | better | difficult | hardest | smaller

What I did last year

Last year was the [1]_____ year of my life. I moved to England and had to find a new job. England is [2]_____ than Greece and it rains a lot too. I had to buy a jacket and some new boots. I live in a flat in the centre of town. It is [3]_____ than my house in Greece but more comfortable. I work in a restaurant in the town centre. The food is the most [4]_____ in town but it is also really delicious. The job is more [5]_____ than I thought but I am getting [6]_____ at it.

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Exercise 3

Match the two parts.

1 Mary doesn't like dogs.
2 Thomas is angry with me.
3 I am really fond of reading.
4 Jessica hates sport.
5 My brother loves animals.
6 Charles plays for a local football team.

a He is very kind to them.
b She is afraid of them.
c I forgot his birthday.
d She's really bad at it.
e I buy a new book every weekend.
f He is really good at it.

Exercise 4

Find one word that does not belong in each group, as shown.

1 Adjectives followed by *at*	good	busy	bad
2 Adjectives followed by *of*	fond	afraid	keen
3 Adjectives followed by *to*	kind	unkind	careful
4 Adjectives followed by *with*	friendly	frightened	angry
5 Adjectives followed by *about*	worried	excited	delicious

Exercise 5

Which sentences are correct?

1 Jackie is good at basketball because she is the tallest in her class. ❑
2 Nurses have to work hard and be kind to everyone. ❑
3 My best friend is really angry of me because I lost her most expensive ring. ❑
4 That is the less interesting film I have ever seen. ❑
5 My sister Margaret is very keen of sport. ❑
6 Who do you think has the most important job, doctors, police officers or teachers? ❑

Exercise 6

Put each sentence into the correct order.

1 the / is / best / to visit / time / you / what / ?

_____

2 about / my / I'm / new / excited / car / .

_____

3 everyone / is / in / Nick / his class / younger / than / .

_____

4 this chair / the / least / is / comfortable / .

_____

5 Jo / milk / is / chocolate / very fond / of / .

_____

6 peaches / sweetest / are / fruit / the / .

_____

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