

Write the superlative form of the adjectives.

128

EXERCISE 2 THE SUPERLATIVE

Look at the information comparing the subway systems in three cities. Complete the sentences with the superlative form of the adjectives in parentheses. Also, write the name of the correct city.

THREE NORTH AMERICAN SUBWAY SYSTEMS			
	Toronto	New York City	Mexico City
First opened	1954	1904	1969
Length (miles)	42.4 ¹	233.5	140.7
Number of riders (per year)	400 million	1.8 billion	1.7 billion
Cost of a single ride*	\$2.32	\$2.75	\$0.27

¹(and an additional 17.1 miles under construction)

*in U.S. dollars

- _____ *New York City* _____ has _____ *the oldest* _____ subway system.
(old)
- _____ has _____ subway system.
(new)
- _____ 's system is _____
(long)
- _____ 's system is _____
(short)
- _____ system is in _____
(busy)
- _____ has _____ number of riders.
(low)
- The subway in _____ is _____ to use.
(expensive)
- You can buy _____ single ticket in _____
(cheap)



EXERCISE 3 SUPERLATIVE ADJECTIVES

Read the comments posted on an online subway message board. Complete the sentences with the superlative form of the correct adjectives from the boxes. Use the *-est* or the *most / the least*.

Track Talk

beautiful big easy new ~~old~~

I just got back from London. Completed in 1863, the Tube (that's what they call their subway) is the oldest in the world, but it works just fine!

1.

Sheppard Subway is the newest metro line in Toronto. It was completed in 2002. I just rode it. Very nice!

2.

IMHO (In my humble¹ opinion), the Moscow subway stations are without question the most beautiful in the world. They have some really nice features.

3.

Statues, chandeliers, and artwork on the walls make them look more like museums than stations! It's also one of the easiest systems to use. There are plenty of maps and signs in the stations so you don't get lost. As you can see, I'm one of the biggest fans of this great public transportation system!

4.

5.

comfortable convenient cool dangerous fast hot interesting

I just got back from a week's vacation in New York City. We had a great time and rode the subway a lot. I have to say the subway seats are the most uncomfortable

6.

I've ever experienced! They are so hard. I heard they used to be made of straw.² In any case, it's the fastest way to get around town—no traffic to slow you down. It's summer, and all the trains are air-conditioned. Get ready for one of the hottest

7.

¹ *humble*: not considering your ideas as important or as good as other people's
² *straw*: dried stems of wheat or similar plants

_____ 8. _____ rides you've ever been on. In contrast, the stations are among _____ 9. _____ I've ever been in. I'm sure the temperature was over 100 degrees Fahrenheit. That said, New York has one of _____ 10. _____ systems in the world. It's open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and you can go all over the place—even to the beach! And I think it's _____ 11. _____ form of transportation to take. You see all kinds of people. It's a very multicultural experience. Really fascinating. And this may really surprise you, but some people say it's one of _____ 12. _____ subway systems because there are so many people on it. You're almost never alone—even late at night. I guess there's safety in numbers!

crowded dangerous efficient expensive historic quiet

The subway in Athens is probably _____ 13. _____ in the world. When they were building the system, they found the remains of ancient roads, shops, and baths. They've made these part of the system.

Tokyo has _____ 14. _____ subway in the world. At rush hour, there are so many people that special workers have to help push them onto the trains.

Driving in Paris? Don't even think about it! _____ 15. _____ way of getting around is the Metro. As in all big cities, you need to be careful and watch your personal belongings. Rush hour is definitely _____ 16. _____ time to ride the subway because there can be pickpockets "working" the trains.

I love the subway system in Mexico City. First of all, at just 5 pesos (about 27 cents), it's _____ 17. _____ ride in town (actually, in the whole world!). And because the train has rubber wheels, it's one of _____ 18. _____ rides, too.

EXERCISE 4 EDITING

Read the tourist's postcard. There are seven mistakes in the use of the superlative. The first mistake is already corrected. Find and correct six more.

Hola!

Greetings from Mexico City! With its mixture of the old and the new, this is one of the ^{most interesting} ~~interestingest~~ cities I've ever visited. The people are among the friendlier in the world, and they have been very patient with my attempts to speak their language. Spanish is definitely one of a most beautiful languages, and I really want to take lessons when I get home.

This has been the most hot summer in years, and I'm looking forward to going to the beach next week. The air pollution is also the baddest I've experienced, so I'll be glad to be out of the city.

By the way, we definitely did not need to rent a car. The most fast and convenientest way to get around is by subway.

See you soon.

L.



