

Adjectives - Degrees of comparison

An **adjective** is a word that qualifies a noun. When one thing or person is compared or contrasted with another or others in respect of a certain attribute, we use a comparison that can express equality, superiority or inferiority. It can also express supremacy of one person or thing.

There are 3 degrees of comparison: **positive**, **comparative** and **superlative**.

| | Positive | Comparative | Superlative |
|------------------|-------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Short adjectives | cold | colder than | the coldest |
| | pretty | prettier than | the prettiest |
| | hot | hotter than | the hottest |
| Long adjectives | interesting | more interesting than | the most interesting |

As you can see the way we form the comparative and the superlative depends on the size of the adjective. However, there are some adjectives that don't follow this rule. They are **exceptions**.

| Positive | Comparative | Superlative |
|----------|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| good | better (than) | the best |
| bad | worse (than) | the worst |
| little | less (than) | the least |
| much | more (than) | the most |
| many | | |
| far | farther (than) further (than) | the farthest the furthest |
| late | later (than) latter | the latest the last |
| old | older (than) elder (than) | the oldest the eldest |



| | | |
|-------------|-------------|--|
| Comparative | Inferiority | This film is less interesting than that one. Today is less cold than yesterday. |
| | Equality | This film is as interesting as the one I watched yesterday. |
| | Superiority | That film is more interesting than that one. Yesterday was colder than today. |

| | | |
|-------------|-------------|--|
| Superlative | Inferiority | This film is the least interesting one I have ever seen. Today is the least cold day of this week. |
| | Superiority | That film is the most interesting one I have ever seen. Yesterday was the coldest day of this week. |

Now, let's practise.

Употребите прилагательные в необходимой форме. Добавьте, где требуется, необходимые слова

- 1- This cake is _____ (good) the one you baked last week.
- 2- This exercise is _____ (easy) than we expected.
- 3- Are you feeling better now? – No, I am _____ (bad). I have a terrible headache.
- 4- Have you heard any _____ (far) news from John?
- 5- It's a long trip to Sidney. It's _____ (far) than I thought.
- 6- She is _____ (kind) woman I have ever met.
- 7- Which one is _____ (old), you or your brother?
- 8- This dress is _____ (cheap) that one. They cost the same.
- 9- These are _____ (thrilling) holidays we have ever had.
- 10- Your coffee is not _____ (tasty) as my mother's.
- 11- My mother is much _____ (patient) than my father. She never loses control of herself.
- 12- Our hotel was very big. I expected it to be _____ (small).
- 13- My job has become a bit boring. I would like to have a _____ (exciting) one.
- 14- This city has become _____ (frightening) it used to be. There is so much criminality!
- 15- How many eggs do we have in the fridge? - _____ (little) than we need for the cake.
- 16- This is _____ (dirty) street we have ever lived. It seems everybody throws their garbage on the ground.
- 17- My slice of cake is _____ (thin) than yours! That's not fair.