

Comparative and superlative adjectives

- 1 ★ Choose the correct words to complete the table.

Adjective	Comparative	Superlative
light	<u>lighter</u> than	the ¹ _____
big	² _____ than	the biggest
heavy	heavier ³ _____	⁴ _____
intelligent	⁵ _____ than	the most intelligent
good	⁶ _____ than	⁷ _____ best
bad	worse than	⁸ _____

lighter / lightest

- 1 lightest / most light
- 2 bigger / bigger
- 3 than / that
- 4 a heaviest / the heaviest
- 5 intelligenter / more intelligent
- 6 better / more better
- 7 more / the
- 8 the worse / the worst

- 2 ★★ Complete the sentences with the words in the box.

than dangerous most more bigger
the tallest best

Dogs are bigger than cats.

- 1 Giraffes are the _____ animals in the world.
- 2 Elephants aren't longer _____ blue whales.
- 3 Humans are _____ common than tigers.
- 4 Have chimpanzees got the _____ memory?
- 5 Dolphins aren't _____ noisiest animals in the sea.
- 6 Gorillas aren't the _____ aggressive animals.
- 7 Are humans the most _____ animals in the world?

- 3 ★★ Write sentences using comparative or superlative adjectives.

cats / light / lions

Cats are lighter than lions.

- 1 humans / intelligent / gorillas
- 2 blue whales / big / animals in the world
- 3 monkeys / heavy / spiders
- 4 tigers / dangerous / zebras
- 5 pandas / rare / animals

- 4 ★★★ Write three comparative and three superlative sentences about yourself and your family. Use the words in the box.

heavy good intelligent artistic bad
practical dangerous

My dad is a lot heavier than my brother, and a bit heavier than my mum.

- 1 _____
- 2 _____
- 3 _____
- 4 _____
- 5 _____
- 6 _____

should and must

- 5 ★★ Complete the sentences. Use *must* / *mustn't* or *should* / *shouldn't* and the correct form of the verbs in brackets.

You should take (take) a break. You look tired.

I mustn't be (be) late. It's my English exam!

- 1 Frances _____ (stay) up so late at night.
- 2 In the UK, you _____ (drive) on the left side of the road.
- 3 You _____ (clean) your teeth more often. They're yellow!
- 4 We _____ (protect) wild animals if we want them to survive.
- 5 You _____ (smoke) here. It's against the law.
- 6 You _____ (buy) that CD. It's great!



Learning at home

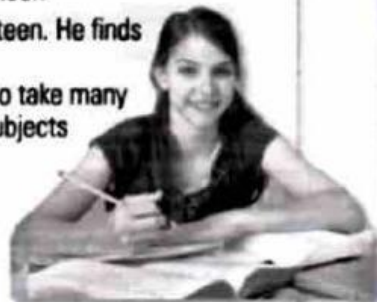
In Britain some families feel that learning at home is better than going to school. Home-schooled children can choose when they want to learn. Does this sound more enjoyable than school?

Adrian is a science prodigy and he wants to start university by the age of fourteen. He finds school lessons easier than most children, but making friends more difficult.

At home, he can spend more time on his favourite subjects and is preparing to take many of his exams early. Does he ever take a break? 'Yes,' he says, 'I don't study subjects I'm not interested in.'

Holly's parents weren't happy with the local school, so they made a decision to teach her at home. Her favourite subject is history and she often goes to museums to study. 'I couldn't do that before,' she says. 'This is more interesting than school was.' Her parents are always happy to help her.

Adrian and Holly love learning at home, but some people think that studying at school is more useful because it trains you for adult life. It teaches you to be with people you don't like, but it can also help you to make friends. Are these things more important than lessons? What do you think?



1 ★ Read the text. Tick ✓ the correct box.

The writer of the text ...

- a ☐ thinks that home-schooling is wrong.
- b ☐ says home-schooling is better for everyone.
- c ☐ asks the reader to decide if home-schooling is a good idea.

2 ★★ Read the text again. Match 1–6 with a–f.

- 1 Some British children don't _____ c
- 2 Home-schooled children have more _____
- 3 Adrian isn't very good at _____
- 4 Science lessons at school are _____
- 5 Holly's parents chose to _____
- 6 School can help you to learn _____

- a making new friends.
- b how to make friends.
- c go to school.
- d very easy for Adrian.
- e choice about the subjects they learn.
- f teach her at home.

3 ★★ Read the text again. Complete the sentences with the words in the box.

likes university school learns
subject parents

In Britain, people can learn at home or at _____
school.

- 1 Adrian wants to start _____ when he's 14.
- 2 He only studies things that he _____.
- 3 History is Holly's favourite _____.

4 She _____ at home and in museums.

5 Holly's _____ help her when she needs something.

4 ★★★ Write sentences about your experiences of school. What are / were the good and bad things? How is learning at home different? Use the words in the box to help you.

could(n't) can('t) socialise learn study
interesting enjoyable parents subject

At my last school, I couldn't study French.

but now I can study three languages.

- 1 _____
- 2 _____
- 3 _____
- 4 _____
- 5 _____

Build your vocabulary

5 ★★ Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verbs in the box.

make take start make break

Some children find it very difficult to _____
make friends.

- 1 We _____ our exams last summer.
- 2 Edward's exam results _____ the record for high marks last year.
- 3 I want to _____ university soon.
- 4 You need to _____ a decision about the subjects you want to study.

Language point: time expressions

1 ★ Choose the correct words.

Swimmer Michael Phelps was born in / on 1985.

- 1 TV chef Jamie Oliver worked at his parents' restaurant **during** / **for** eight years before he went to catering college.
- 2 Lady Gaga's first album came out in / on August 19th 2008.
- 3 Actress Emma Watson was famous **by** / **for** the age of eleven.
- 4 Mozart started composing music at five years old. A year **late** / **later**, he played concerts around Europe.
- 5 Cristiano Ronaldo is **now** / **for** the highest-paid footballer in the world.
- 6 Bill Gates started programming computers in / by High School.

2 ★★ Complete the sentences with the correct time expressions.

Michael Jackson was born on 29th August 1958.

- 1 Jackson was a famous singer and dancer from the time he was ten years old.
- 2 He performed with his brothers in The Jackson Five for twenty years.
- 3 He became famous as a solo artist with his *Off the Wall* album in 1979.
- 4 Three years later, he made his most successful album, *Thriller*.
- 5 On 25th June 2009, Michael Jackson died at home.



TASK



Who's the mystery person?

Read and find out!

This person was born in London in 1989. He grew up and went to school there. He became interested ¹ in by the age of five, and first appeared on TV in ² 1999. His life changed in 2001, when his ³ first film appeared in cinemas. This was the first in a series of films which earned him a lot of money. He also won several awards for ⁴ his acting. In his free time he ⁵ plays the guitar. He's most ⁶ famous for his role as Harry Potter, but many people know his ⁷ other and dramas, too. Who is he? He's ⁸ Harry Potter.

3 ★★ Read the information and complete the text. Use one, two or three words.

From: London

Early life: interested in acting from age of five

Career: first TV job 1999; first big film 2001; several Best Actor awards

Plays: guitar

Famous for: Harry Potter role; plays and TV dramas

4 ★★★ Write a biography of a famous person. Put the information into three paragraphs:

- 1 Where was the person born? Where did he / she grow up?
- 2 What is the person good at / interested in? What special things did he / she do?
- 3 What is the person famous for? Who is he / she?

Ability: *can* and *could*

- 1 Complete the sentences with *can*, *can't*, *could*, *couldn't* and the correct form of the verb.

When I was three months old I couldn't walk (walk).

- 1 Matthew is very intelligent. He _____ (speak) five languages.
- 2 Rob and I watched a Japanese film last night, but we _____ (understand) it.
- 3 My grandma was very good at music. She _____ (play) the piano and sing.
- 4 I can use a computer, but I _____ (program) one.
- 5 Adam and Paul are brilliant cooks – they _____ (make) really tasty food.

- 2 Choose the correct words.

Henry didn't ~~could~~ / couldn't speak French two years ago.

- 1 The girls can play / to play chess.
- 2 I can / could ride a horse when I was three.
- 3 We don't can / can't swim across the lake.
- 4 Alicia can / cans compose music.
- 5 My brother couldn't to ski / ski on holiday last year.

Questions with *How ...* ?

- 3 Read the answers. Then complete the questions with *how* and the words in the box.

much far many friendly strict
often tall

How tall are you?

I'm one metre seventy.

- 1 _____ apples do you eat every day? One or two.
- 2 _____ does he play basketball? Three times a week.
- 3 _____ is your teacher? Not very. He's usually friendly.
- 4 _____ can you run? About a kilometre.
- 5 _____ pasta is there? There's enough for two people.
- 6 _____ is your cat? Not very. Sometimes, he bites people!

Comparative and superlative adjectives

- 4 Complete the table with the comparative and superlative forms of the adjectives.

Adjective	Comparative	Superlative
big	<u>bigger</u>	<u>the biggest</u>
bad		
far		
heavy		
intelligent		
large		
light		
peaceful		
unhappy		

- 5 Complete the text with the comparative or superlative forms of the adjectives.

I've got three really good friends – Cara, Suzy and Megan. Cara is older (old) than us – she's fifteen and we're all fourteen. Megan is the ¹ _____ (young) – she had her fourteenth birthday last week. Suzy is the ² _____ (tall) – she's one metre eighty-five! I'm one metre sixty, but Cara is ³ _____ (short) than me – she's only one metre fifty.

The ⁴ _____ (intelligent) person is definitely Cara. But Megan is ⁵ _____ (artistic) than Cara. She can paint really good pictures. Suzy is the ⁶ _____ (funny) person I know. I'm ⁷ _____ (quiet) than all of them, but we always have fun!

- 6 Write sentences with comparative and superlative adjectives.

my dad / artistic / person in our family

My dad is the most artistic person in our family.

1 cats / slow / tigers

2 elephants / rare / dogs

3 humans / intelligent / animals in the world

4 I / practical / my sister

5 you / good / singer in the class