



28 Listen and repeat. Then act out.



Regular Comparative and Superlative Forms

Adjectives	Positive	Comparative	Superlative
of one syllable add -(e)r / -(e)st to form their comparative and superlative forms	short big large	shorter (than) bigger (than) larger (than)	the shortest (of/in) the biggest (of/in) the largest (of/in)
of two syllables ending in -er , -ly , -y , -w also add -er / -est	heavy shallow	heavier (than) shallower (than)	the heaviest (of/in) the shallowest (of/in)
of two or more syllables take more / most	special attractive	more special (than) more attractive (than)	the most special (of/in) the most attractive (of/in)

Certain adjectives form their comparative and superlative in both ways, either by adding **-er** / **-est** to the positive form or taking **more** / **most**. Some of these are: **clever**, **common**, **cruel**, **friendly**, **gentle**, **narrow**, **pleasant**, **polite**, **quiet**, **simple**, etc.

clever – **cleverer** – **cleverest** ALSO **clever** – **more clever** – **the most clever**

Adverbs	Positive	Comparative	Superlative
adverbs having the same forms as adjectives add -er / -est	fast	faster	the fastest
early drops -y and adds -ier / -iest	early	earlier	the earliest
two syllable or compound adverbs take more / most (compound adverbs are adjectives + -ly careful - carefully)	often safely easily	more often more safely more easily	the most often the most safely the most easily

We normally use **than** after a comparative. **I'm taller than you.** We normally use **the** before a superlative. We often use **of** or **in** after a superlative. We normally use **in** with places. **I'm the tallest of all.** **I'm the tallest in my school.**

12 Fill in the gaps with the correct comparative and superlative forms.

1 slow	.....	.....	(the) slowest.	4 often	.....	.....
2 happy	.....	.....		5 hard	.....	.....
3 carefully	.....	.....		6 early	.....	.....

13 Complete the sentences with the comparative form and *than*. Then say if you agree or disagree.

- 1 Badminton is *easier than* (easy) tennis.
- 2 Being a builder is (dangerous) being a firefighter.
- 3 Physics is (hard) Chemistry.
- 4 The theatre is (interesting) the cinema.
- 5 Cake is (tasty) biscuits.

14 Complete the sentences. Use the superlative form.

1 happy day / of my life <i>The happiest day of my life was when...</i>	3 exciting film / I've ever seen
2 funny programme / on TV	4 popular singer / in my country
	5 wonderful holiday / I've ever had

Irregular Forms

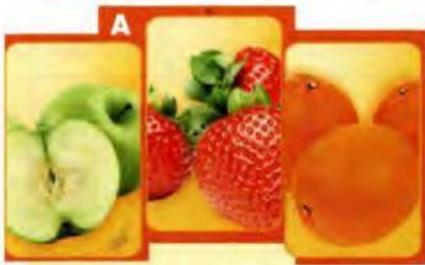
Positive	Comparative	Superlative
good / well	better	best
bad / badly	worse	worst
much	more	most
many / a lot of	more	most
little	less	least
far	farther	farthest
far	further	furthest

a **further / farther** (adv) = longer (in distance)
He lives **further / farther** away than me.
further (adj) = more
For **further** details, consult our website.

b **very + positive degree**. It's a **very nice** day.
even / much / far / a bit / a lot + comparative degree. This house is **even bigger** than the other. She's **much older** than Jane.

Types of Comparisons

as ... (positive degree) ... as	Ted is as tall as Jim.
not so / as ... (positive degree) ... as	Kate isn't as / so clever as her sister (is).
not such a(n) / so ... as	Dave isn't such a good footballer as he used to be.
less ... (positive degree) ... than	The red car is less expensive than the blue one, but
the least ... (positive degree) ... of / in	the black one is the least expensive of all .
the + comparative ..., the + comparative	The earlier you leave, the earlier you'll be back. The more reliable, the more expensive a car is.
comparative + and + comparative	The story is becoming more and more interesting . He walked faster and faster .
prefer + -ing form or noun + to + -ing form or noun (general preference)	I prefer drinking tea to drinking soft drinks . I prefer spaghetti to pizza .
would prefer + to infinitive + rather than + infinitive without to (specific preference)	I would prefer to go on foot rather than take a taxi . I would prefer to stay at home rather than go to the party .

15 Using *juicy, fast, slow, big or small*, fill in the gaps as in the example:

Apples are 1) *juicier than* strawberries. Strawberries aren't 2) apples. Oranges are 3) all and strawberries are 4) all.



A train travels 1) *faster than* a boat.
A boat is 2) plane.
A plane is 3) all.



A horse is 1) *bigger than* a dog and 2) an elephant.
A dog isn't 3) a horse. An elephant is 4) all and a dog is 5) all.

Put the adjectives / adverbs in brackets into the comparative or superlative form, adding any necessary words.

1 A: Melanie got straight As again this term.
B: It doesn't surprise me. She's *the most hard-working* (hard-working) student of all.

2 A: How was your holiday in the Caribbean?
B: It was (relaxing) trip I've ever taken.

3 A: I have to leave now. It's getting late.
B: Don't go yet. Stay a bit (long).

4 A: Thanks for helping me clean up after the party.
B: Don't mention it. It's (little) we could do.

5 A: How much (far) is it to the airport?
B: About five minutes. Don't worry. We'll get there soon.

6 A: What did you think of Bob's speech?
B: It was OK, but Mary's was much (interesting).

7 A: This place is too noisy. Can we go somewhere (quiet)?
B: Yes, of course.

8 A: Did you have a nice time yesterday?
B: Yes. The party was great. I stayed far (long) than I was expecting to.

9 A: Do you like my homemade vegetarian lasagne?
B: Yes, it's (good) lasagne I've ever tasted.

10 A: Did you enjoy Doug Thomson's new adventure film?
B: Yes, but his last film was much (exciting).

11 A: How do you like our new sofa?
B: I love it. It's (comfortable) than your last one.

12 A: The Maths test was quite easy.
B: I know. It was a lot (easy) than I thought it would be.

13 A: Did you enjoy the Dragon roller coaster ride?
B: Absolutely not! It was (frightening) ride I've ever been on.

14 A: I think I'd prefer the brown dress.
B: I know but this one is (cheap).