



Listen and repeat. Then act out.

Open wide, please. Ah, you've got the **biggest** cavity I've ever seen.



That would be **less cruel** if you didn't keep repeating it.



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 | <i>slower</i> | (the) <i>slowest</i> | 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.

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

14 Complete the sentences. Use the *superlative* form.

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| 1 happy day / of my life | 3 exciting film / I've ever seen |
| <i>The happiest day of my life was when...</i> | 4 popular singer / in my country |
| 2 funny programme / on TV | 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 not so / as ... (positive degree) ... as not such a(n) / so ... as	Ted is as tall as Jim. Kate isn't as / so clever as her sister (is). Dave isn't such a good footballer as he used to be.
less ... (positive degree) ... than the least ... (positive degree) ... of / in	The red car is less expensive than the blue one, but 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.

16 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).