

Comparatives and superlatives

Uses of the comparative adjectives:



We use comparative adjectives to show change or make comparisons:

This car is certainly better, but is much more expensive.

I'm feeling happier now.

We need a bigger house for the family.



We use "than" when we want to compare one thing with another:

Mom is 3 years younger than my dad.

My current city is bigger than the last one.

An elephant is way bigger than a rat.

Form and syllables:



Adjectives with one syllable: We usually add -er to the adjective:

Old - Older.

Clean - Cleaner.

Slow - Slower.



If an adjective ends with -e, we add an -r:

Safe - Safer.

Nice - Nicer.



If an adjective ends in a vowel and a consonant, we usually double the consonant:

Big - Bigger.

Hot - Hotter.



Adjectives with two or more syllables: If it ends in a consonant and -y, we change -y for -i and add -er:

Noisy - Noisier.

Happy - Happier.

Easy - Easier.



We use "more" to make comparative forms for most two-syllable adjective and for all three-syllable adjectives:

Beautiful - More beautiful.

Dangerous - More dangerous.

Stressful - More stressful.

Uses of the superlative adjectives:



We use "the" with superlative adjectives:

That's the best film I've ever seen.



We use it in comparisons to describe something as being of the highest degree or extreme.

I'm the happiest I've ever been.

That boy is the tallest in his class.

Everest is the highest mountain.



We use superlative adjectives when making comparisons of three or more people or things.

Between Brazil, Chile and Argentina, Brazil is the warmest country.

If we talk about Mars, Jupiter and the Earth, Jupiter is the biggest.

Between the three planets, Jupiter has the most moons.

Form and syllables:



Adjectives with one syllable: We usually add -est to the adjective:

Small - Smallest.

Fast - Fastest.

Clean - Cleanest.



If an adjective ends with -e, we add -st:

Large - Largest.

Nice - Nicest.



If an adjective ends in a vowel and a consonant, we usually double the consonant:

Big - Biggest.

Hot - Hottest.



Adjectives with two or more syllables: If it ends in a consonant and -y, we change -y for -i and add -est:

Silly - Silliest.

Happy - Happiest.



We use "most" to make superlative forms for most two-syllable adjective and for all three-syllable adjectives:

Careful - More careful.

Interesting - More interesting.



Irregular comparatives and superlatives:

These very common adjectives have completely irregular comparative and superlative forms.

Adjective	Comparative	Superlative
Good	Better	Best
Bad	Worse	Worst
Little	Less	Least
Much	More	Most
Far	Further / Farther	Furthest / Farthest

Exercises:

Complete the chart with the correct adjectives.

Adjective	Comparative	Superlative
Good		
Sad		
		Prettiest
Calm		
	Happier	
		Cleanest
Dark		
		Quickest
	Stronger	

Complete the following sentences with the correct use of the adjective.

In Boco, streets are generally _____ (narrow) than in Quillota.

Quilpue is _____ (sunny) than Valparaíso.

Quillota is _____ (noisy) than Boco.

Puerto Varas is a lot _____ (cold) than Arica.

Quillota is _____ (quiet) than Santiago.

Iquique _____ (big) than Boco.

Match the images with the adjectives

sunny

big

hot

windy

quiet

noisy

clean

cold





Complete the chart with the correct adjectives.

Adjective	Comparative	Superlative
Sunny		
Big		
Hot		
Windy		
Quiet		
Noisy		
Clean		
Cold		

Compare the following landscapes



Mountains



Hill

The mountain is _____ than the hill.



Waterfall



River

The waterfall is _____ than the river.