

9 Comparisons

Comparative and superlative adjectives

Comparative adjectives



Generally, we add **-er** to the end of short adjectives to form the comparative.



Adjective

long
small
high

Comparative

longer
smaller
higher

Adjective

short
deep
slow

Comparative

shorter
deeper
slower

Look at these other rules:

Adjective ending	Example	Add	Comparative adjective
-e	wide	+ -r	wider
consonant + vowel + consonant	big	double the final consonant + -er	bigger

When we want to directly compare two things, places or people, we use **than**.
Cairo is bigger **than** London. Charlie is taller **than** Harry.

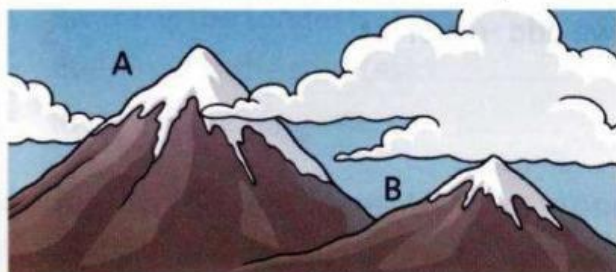
1 Add r, ger, or er to the words to make comparative adjectives.

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------|
| 1 long <u>longer</u> | 2 short _____ |
| 3 young _____ | 4 wide _____ |
| 5 deep _____ | 6 high _____ |
| 7 big _____ | 8 loud _____ |

2 Write the comparative adjectives.

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------|
| 1 small <u>smaller</u> | 2 tall _____ |
| 3 loud _____ | 4 long _____ |
| 5 quiet _____ | 6 big _____ |
| 7 slow _____ | 8 high _____ |
| 9 fast _____ | 10 short _____ |
| 11 old _____ | 12 young _____ |

3 Write sentences, using the comparative adjective of the word in brackets.



- 1 (high) A is higher than B.



- 2 (old) _____



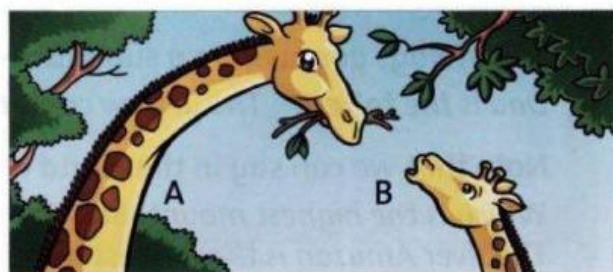
- 3 (big) _____



- 4 (wide) _____



- 5 (quiet) _____



- 6 (tall) _____

Superlative adjectives



To form the superlative of short adjectives, we add **-est** or **-st**.

Adjective	Comparative
long	longest
small	smallest
high	highest
short	shortest
deep	deepest
slow	slowest

Adjective ending	Example	Add	Comparative adjective
-e	wide	+ -st	widest
consonant + vowel + consonant	big	double the final consonant + -est	biggest



The always goes before a superlative.

*Dad is **the tallest**. The yellow car is **the fastest**.*

Note that we can say **in the world** with superlative adjectives.

*Which is the highest mountain **in the world**?*

*The river Amazon is the longest river **in the world**.*

4 Write the superlative adjectives.

- | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------|
| 1 small <u>the smallest</u> | 2 tall _____ |
| 3 loud _____ | 4 long _____ |
| 5 quiet _____ | 6 big _____ |
| 7 slow _____ | 8 high _____ |
| 9 fast _____ | 10 short _____ |
| 11 old _____ | 12 young _____ |

5 Look at the table. True or false? Write T or F.

High	Long	Tall
Mountain A 2000 m	River D 400 km	Building G 150 m
Mountain B 1000 m	River E 175 km	Building H 300 m
Mountain C 3000 m	River F 500 km	Building I 75 m

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1 River E is the longest. <u>F</u> | 2 Mountain A is the highest. _____ |
| 3 Building I is the smallest. _____ | 4 Mountain C is the smallest. _____ |
| 5 River F is the longest. _____ | 6 Building H is the tallest. _____ |

6 Complete the sentences. Use a comparative or superlative form, and add **than if necessary.**

- Mountain A is higher than Mountain B, but Mountain C is the highest.
- River D is _____ River E, but River F is _____.
- Building G is _____ Building H, but Building I is _____.
- Mountain A is _____ Mountain B, but Mountain C is _____.
- River D is _____ River F, but River E is _____.

7 Complete the sentences using a word from the box.

younger bigger oldest smaller longest

- The Nile is the longest river in Egypt.
- The USA is _____ than the UK.
- Mount Fuji is _____ than Mount Everest.
- My baby sister is _____ than my Grandma.
- The _____ man in the world is 113.