ADJECTIVES

COMPARISON OF ADJECTIVES



Adjectives - introduction

• An adjective is a word that is used to describe a noun.

e.g.: A beautiful girl.

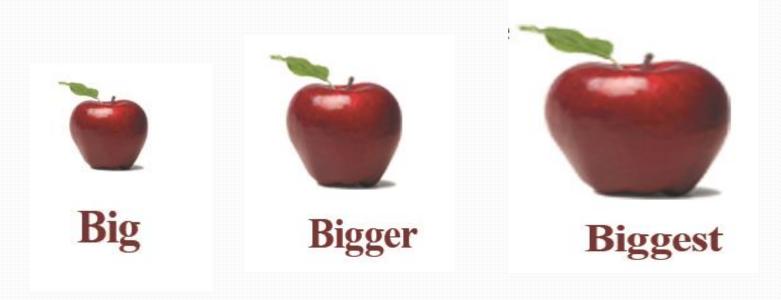
A <u>clever</u> boy.

A tall tree.

- * The word "beautiful" describes the noun "girl".
- The word "clever" describes the noun "boy".
- The word "tall" describes the noun "tree".

Let's compare nouns using adjectives

Look at these three apples.



• We can compare above three apples by using the same adjective "big".

Comparison of Adjectives

- There are three degrees of comparison of adjectives.
 - 1. Positive degree
 - 2. Comparative degree
 - 3. Superlative degree

Read the following sentences

- a. Sena is a <u>tall</u> boy. (positive)
- b. Sarath is **taller** than Sena. (comparative)
- c. Piyal is the <u>tallest</u> boy in our class. (superlative)
- The comparative degree is followed by "than".
- The superlative degree is preceded by "the".

Underline the comparative degree in the following sentences.

- 1. Roy is stronger than Ravi.
- 2. The sun is bigger than moon.
- 3. Mahaweli is the longest river in Sri Lanka.
- 4. This is the oldest building in the city.
- 5. Who is the fattest boy in your class?
- 6. Iron is heavier than cotton.
- 7. I am the youngest in my family.
- 8. Everest is the highest mountain in the world.

Formation of degrees of comparison

	Positive	Comparative	Superlative
1. By adding "er" and "est" to the positive.	tall	taller	tallest
	long	longer	longest
	short	shorter	shortest
	weak	weaker	weakest
	strong	stronger	strongest
2. By adding "r" and "st" to the positive.	pure	purer	purest
	strange	stranger	strangest
	large	larger	largest
	wise	wiser	wisest
	brave	braver	bravest

	Positive	Comparative	Superlative
3. By doubling the final consonant and adding "er" and "est".	hot	hotter	hottest
	sad	sadder	saddest
	thin	thinner	thinnest
	fat	fatter	fattest
	big	bigger	biggest
4. By changing "y" into "i" and adding "er" and "est".	dry	drier	driest
	easy	easier	easiest
	happy	happier	happiest
	busy	busier	busiest
	heavy	heavier	heaviest

5. by adding "more" and "most" to the positive. adjectives with more than two syllables.

e.g.: beau.ti.ful (three syllables)
im.port.ant (three syllables)
ex.pen.sive (three syllables)

positive	comparative	superlative
important difficult intelligent useful interesting generous expensive	more important more difficult more intelligent more useful more interesting more generous more expensive	most important most difficult most intelligent most useful most interesting most generous most expensive

Irregular formation of adjectives.

- A small number of adjectives are irregular in the way they make comparative and superlative forms.
- Irregular adjectives use completely different forms.

positive	comparative	superlative
good bad much many little far	better worse more more less further	best worst most most least furthest

Complete the blanks using correct forms of adjectives

- 1. Elephants arebigger... than bears. (big)
- 2. The Angel falls is the ..highest..waterfall in the world (high)
- 3. Gold is ... more expensive than silver (expensive)
- 5. English is the ... most useful ... language in the world. (useful)
- 6. The weather is ...hotter.. than yesterday. (hot)
- 7. Roy is the ... youngest. .in his family. (young)
- 8. I am ...better.... at English than my brother. (good)

Underline the correct answer.

1.	This is thecastle in Britain.		
	a. older	b. old	c. oldest
2.	Friends are	than m	oney.
	a. important	b. more impo	ortant c. most important
3.	Today's weather is	th	an yesterday.
	a. worse	b. bad	c. worst
4.	Cartoons are	among	children.
	a. popular	b. most popu	lar c. more popular.
5.	Winter is the	time of t	the year.
	a. hard	b. harder	c. hardest
6.	Children are than adults.		
	a. happy	b. happier	c. happiest



Prepared by: K.C.L.Senanayake, Ch/St.Mary's Boys' College. chamithsenanayake@yahoo.com