

Superlative

Grammar > Intermediate 6



Exercise 1 – Learning

'Superlative' is short for 'superlative adjective/adverb'. We use superlatives when we talk about things that have the most of a certain quality. In English, adjectives and adverbs take on different forms when we want to compare three or more things.

Forming Superlatives

The main difference between comparatives and superlatives is that superlatives have a 'the' in front of them:

better
$$\rightarrow$$
 the best

cheaper
$$\rightarrow$$
 the cheapest

expensive
$$\rightarrow$$
 the most expensive

There are two ways to form superlatives:

1. For one-syllable adjectives and adverbs, add '-est' directly to the word and put 'the' in front of it.

- Today is the luckiest day of my life!
- Tom studies **the hardest** of all the students.



2. For adjectives and adverbs with two or more syllables, put 'the most' before the words.

 $'the\ most' + long\ words$

- She always wears *the most* expensive clothes.
- Jessica gets sick *the most* often out of her class.

Words with Irregular Superlative Forms

There are adjectives and adverbs whose superlative is irregular. For example:

 $\label{eq:good} \begin{array}{l} \textbf{good} \ (adj) \, / \, \textbf{well} \ (adv) \to \textbf{the best} \\ \\ \textbf{bad} \ (adj) \, / \, \textbf{badly} \ (adv) \to \textbf{the worst} \\ \\ \textbf{little} \ (adj) \, / \, \textbf{little} \ (adv) \to \textbf{the least} \\ \\ \textbf{far} \ (adj) \, / \, \textbf{far} \ (adv) \to \textbf{the farthest} \ (\textbf{distance}) / \textbf{the furthest} \ (\textbf{extent}) \\ \\ \textbf{old} \ (adj) \to \textbf{the oldest/the eldest} \end{array}$



Exercise 2 – Fill in the Blanks

Fill in the blanks with the superlative form of the adjective or adverb in brackets.

1. Let's go to this cafe, it's one. (close)
2. Out of my three friends, Lisa arrived (early)
3. What's way to the school? (short)
4. Where can I find hospital from here? (near)
5. This is painting I have ever seen. (beautiful)
6. At the competition, Anna jumped (high)
7. He solved problem all by himself. (difficult)
8. Is she student in the class? (talkative)



Exercise 3 – Sentence Construction

Use what you learned in class to create sentences with your tutor.

Example: famous city. \rightarrow What is the most famous city in your country?

Content:

- 1. large house.
- 2. popular actor.
- 3. long river.
- 4. important politician.
- 5. good singer.
- 6. old painting.