

The superlative of adjectives

GRAMMAR

LEVEL
Beginner

NUMBER
EN_BE_1227G

LANGUAGE
English

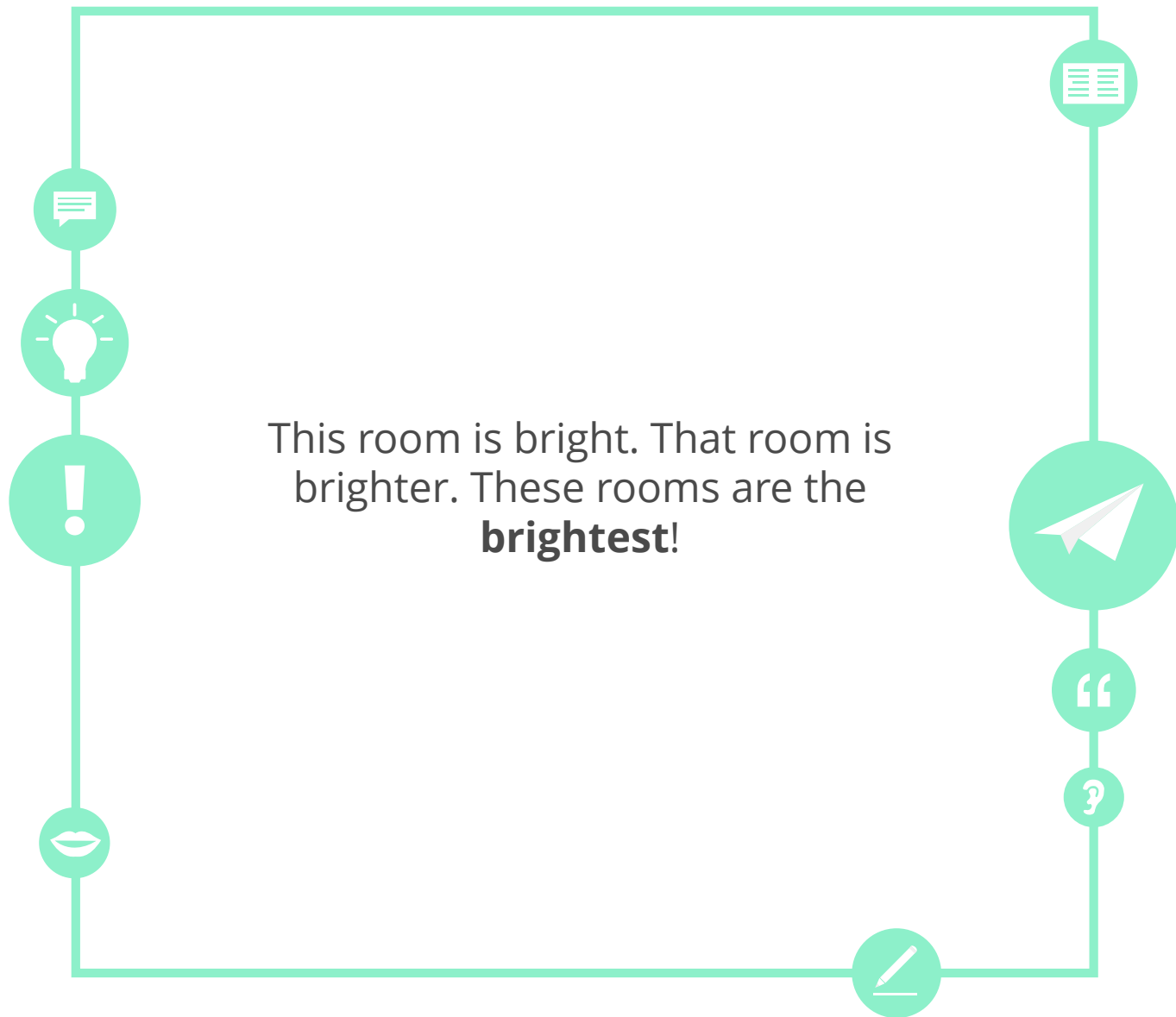




Goals

- Can recognise and understand how to form superlative adjectives to show the greatest of a group of nouns
- Can use -est form to talk about objects in my home and workplace with colleagues







Preview and warm-up

- In this lesson, you will learn the **superlative form** of adjectives and when to use it.



The living room is **the biggest** room in the house.



Forming the superlative

When something is superlative it means that it is the greatest within a set group of nouns.

We add **-est** to form the superlative and also use the definite article **the** in order to separate the noun from the rest of its group.

big	→	the biggest
smart	→	the smartest
cold	→	the coldest
long	→	the longest
strict	→	the strictest



Change **-y** to **-i**

If the word ends in **-y**, we change it to **-i** and then add **-est**.

adjective	comparative (-er)	superlative (-est)
lazy	lazier	the laziest
noisy	noisier	the noisiest
messy	messier	the messiest
tidy	tidier	the tidiest



Comparative or superlative?

comparative

superlative

brighter



smaller



biggest



darker



the darkest



the brightest



bigger



the smallest





Comparative vs superlative

1. My colleague has two phones. The black one is _____ than the white one.

a. older

b. oldest

2. There are three rooms in the office. The storage room is the _____.

a. darker

b. darkest

3. Steve's house has a garden and a balcony. The balcony is _____ than the garden.

a. bigger

b. biggest

4. I'm moving to the countryside because I want to live in a _____ town.

a. smaller

b. smallest



Comparative vs superlative

1. Of all the books I have, this one is the _____.

a. funnier

b. funniest.

2. My colleague's car is the _____ in the neighbourhood.

a. loudest

b. darker

3. You have the _____ voice in the entire office.

a. loudest

b. longest

4. I travel from Thailand to New York. It is the _____ journey of my life.

a. longer

b. longest



Open practice

Finish the sentences with a superlative of your choice

1. I love this newspaper. It's the...

2. You have...

3. These meetings are...

4. Their project is...

5. My old company is...



Practice saying these words

A

messier

B

messiest

C

noisier

D

noisiest



Comparative or superlative?

	COMPARATIVE	SUPERLATIVE
1. That is the noisiest customer!	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. This office is quieter than that one.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Those are the messiest desks!	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Your house is tidier than my house.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. My kitchen is brighter than my bathroom.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



comparative

superlative

quieter

tidier

tidiest

brightest

noisiest

messiest

noisier

quietest

brighter

messier



Practice forming the superlative

1. This desk is messy.

→ This is the messiest **desk**.

2. That office is tidy.

→ _____

3. This apartment is noisy.

→ _____

4. Your boss is kind.

→ _____

5. My mobile phone is expensive.

→ _____



Using *most*

For longer words, we use **the most** and we don't add **-est**.

adjective	comparative (-er)	superlative (-est)
cheap	cheaper	the cheapest
expensive	more expensive	the most expensive
traditional	more traditional	the most traditional
contemporary	more contemporary	the most contemporary



Using *least*

We also use **least** to form superlatives.

adjective	comparative	superlative
cheap	cheaper	the cheapest
expensive	less expensive	the least expensive
traditional	less traditional	the least traditional
contemporary	less contemporary	the least contemporary



Put these words on the right list

expensive

quiet

cheap

dark

messy

bright

noisy

traditional

tidy

small

contemporary

big

-est

-iest

most...

nice



That office has the **nicest** view!

quiet



She is the **quietest** colleague in the office.

expensive



This is the **most expensive** computer.

fast



I am the **fastest**!

bright



This is the **brightest** office in the building.



Compare these offices

A



B



C



D





Speaking activity

- Ask each other questions about the pictures on the previous slide. For example:
 - Which office is the messiest?
 - Which do you think is the most modern?
 - Which one has the nicest view?

The office in picture A looks the brightest.



Combine the words to make sentences

A



team

B



laptop

C



boss

D



bed

1. fastest

2. happiest

3. most confident

4. coziest

*I think that this bed
is the coziest.*



Combine the words to make sentences

A



kitchen

B



garden

C



phone

D



living room

1. **tidiest**

2. **messiest**

3. **newest**

4. **most spacious**

*We have the **tidiest** garden in the neighbourhood!*



Read the text about Jack and Jane



Jack: I'm the best trader in the office!

Jane: No you're not. I'm the best trader. I always get the best deals!

Jack: Your deals aren't good at all. And you always make a mess in the system. You are the messiest person I know!

Jane: That's the biggest lie! I am much tidier than you. Your desk is the messiest desk in the whole building.

Jack: Stay out of my office!



How does each person describe the other person?

The image displays two Polaroid photographs and several pieces of torn paper with adjectives. The Polaroid on the left shows a man with glasses and a blue shirt, labeled 'Jack'. The Polaroid on the right shows a woman with blonde hair and glasses, labeled 'Jane'. The adjectives are scattered around them:

- smartest
- quietest
- messiest
- happiest
- kindest
- best
- fastest
- worst
- tidiest
- funniest
- grumpiest
- strongest



Speaking activity

Jack and Jane are colleagues. They always argue about who is the best at doing different things.

Use the words from the previous slides to talk about your own colleagues.

My colleague Jane is the best. She is a real professional!



Reflect on the goals

Go back to the second slide of the lesson and check if you have achieved all the goals of the lesson.

yes

no





Reflect on this lesson

Think about everything you have seen in this lesson.
What were the most difficult activities or words? The easiest?



If you have time, go over
the most difficult slides again





Answer key

Exercise p. 6: comparative: brighter, smaller, darker, bigger; superlative: biggest, darkest, brightest, smallest

Exercise p. 7: 1. a 2. b 3. a 4. b

Exercise p. 8: 1. b, 2. a, 3. a, 4. b

Exercise p. 10: 1. superlative, 2. comparative, 3. superlative, 4. comparative, 5. comparative

Exercise p. 11: comparative: quieter, tidier, noisier, brighter, messier; superlative: tidiest, brightest, noisiest, messiest, quietest

Exercise p. 13: 2. That bedroom is the tidiest. 3. This apartment is the noisiest. 4. Your dog is the cutest. 5. My mobile phone is the newest.

Exercise p. 16: -est: quiet, cheap, dark, bright, small, big; -iest: messy, noisy, tidy; most...: expensive, traditional, contemporary



Homework answer key

Exercise p. 21:

small, smaller, smallest

big, bigger, biggest

quiet, quieter, quietest

noisy, noisier, noisiest

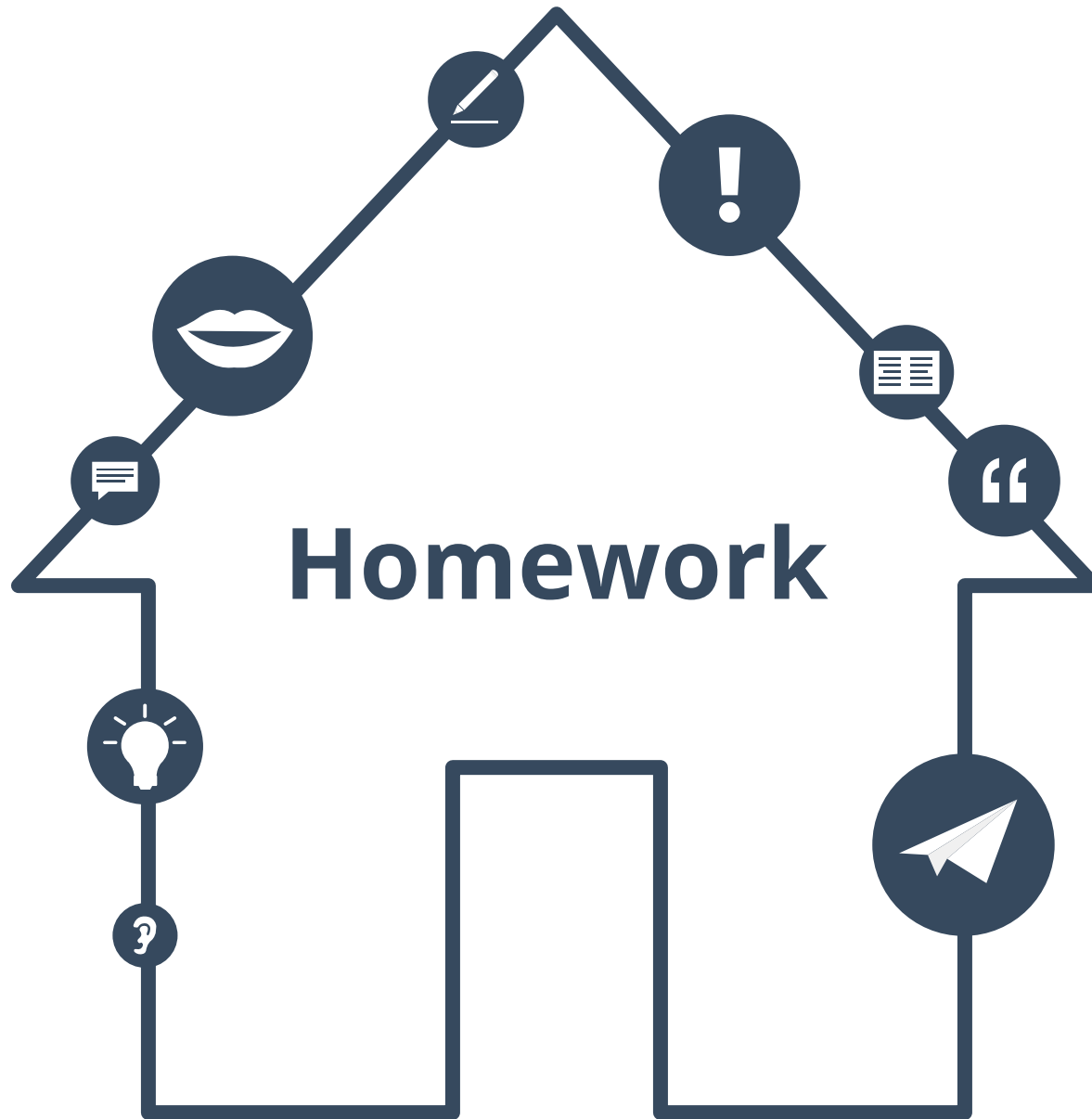
tidy, tidier, tidiest

messy, messier, messiest

expensive, more expensive, most expensive

traditional, more traditional, most traditional

contemporary, more contemporary, most contemporary





Complete the table

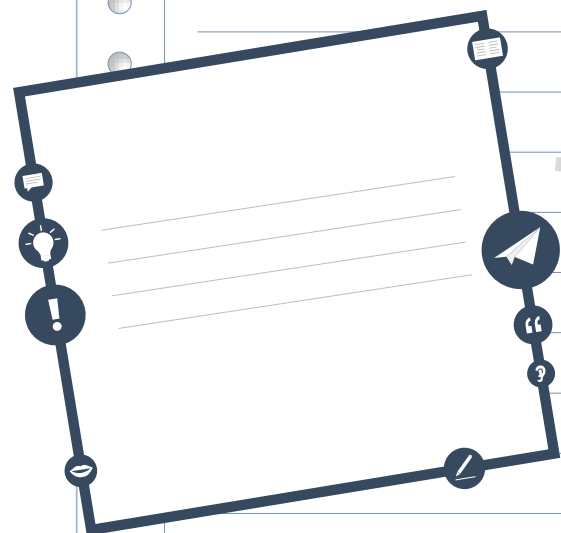
small	_____	smallest
big	bigger	_____
_____	quieter	quietest
noisy	_____	noisiest
tidy	tidier	_____
_____	messier	messiest
expensive	more expensive	_____
_____	more traditional	most traditional
contemporary	_____	most contemporary





Text at the beginning

**Go back to the text on page 3
and find examples of
the grammar topic of this lesson in it.
Write them down.**



Copy parts of the text
that are examples of
topic of the lesson.



Find the adjectives

**Find the adjectives in this lesson and write them down.
Which are new? Do you know all of them?
Look these words up.**

adjectives



Sentences with the superlative

**Choose five sentences from this lesson using the comparative.
Copy them and write them using the superlative.**



Examples:

That apartment is messier.

→ That apartment is messiest.

This house is noisier.

→ This house is noisiest.

...



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