

More on comparatives and superlatives

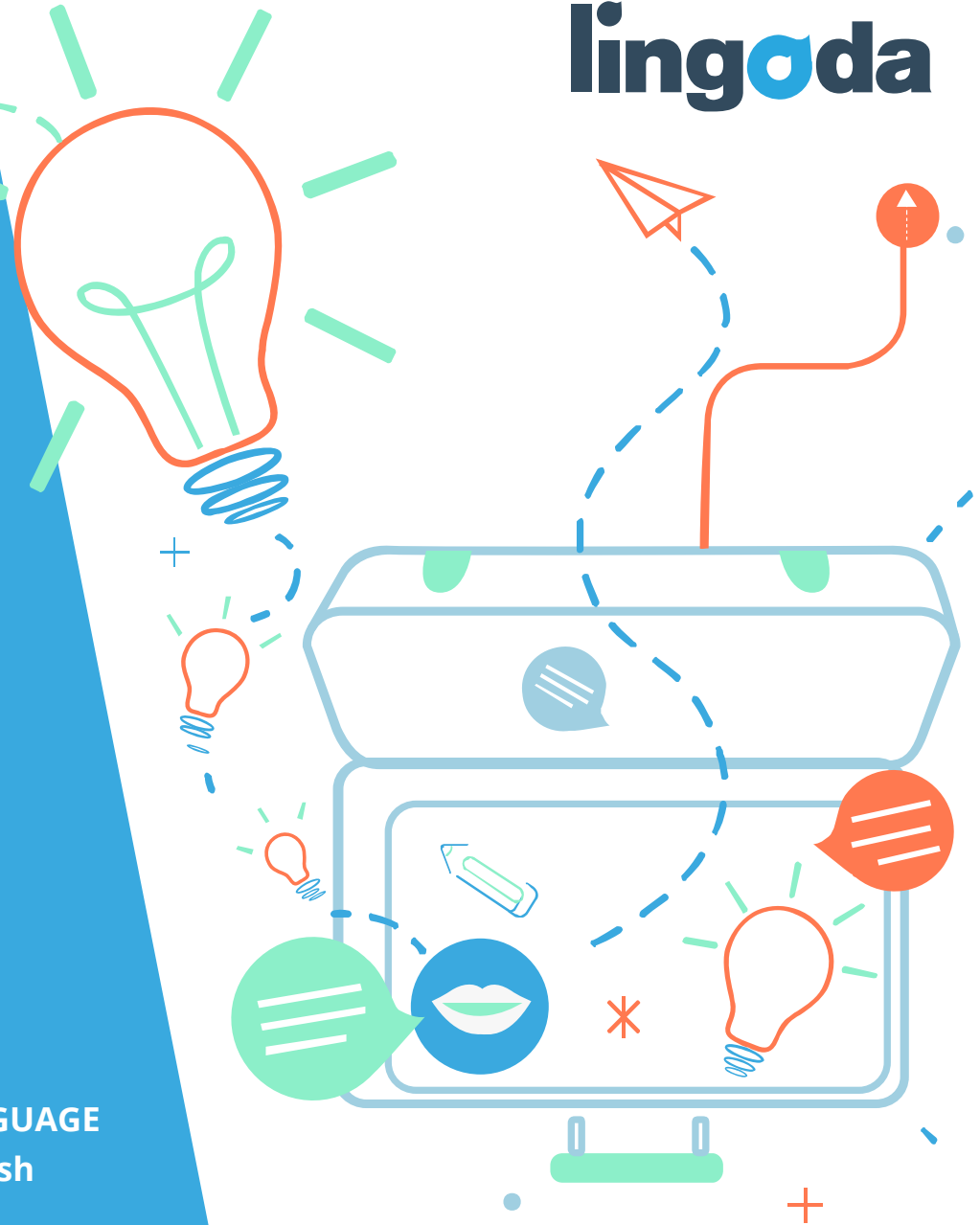
GRAMMAR

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Lower-intermediate

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English

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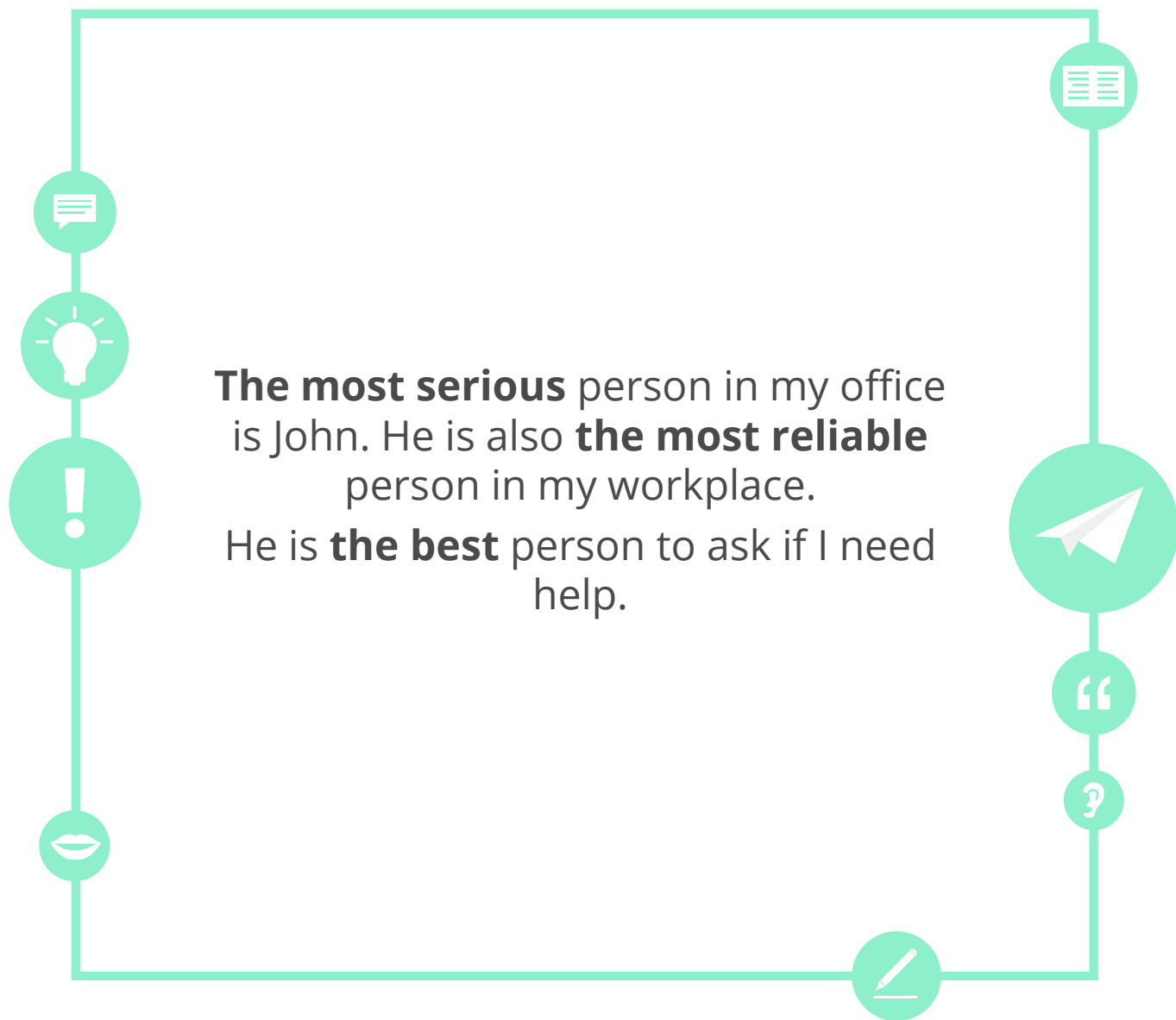




Goals

- Can correctly form more difficult comparatives.
- Can form superlatives with longer adjectives.





The most serious person in my office
is John. He is also **the most reliable**
person in my workplace.
He is **the best** person to ask if I need
help.



Preview and warm-up

In this lesson you are going to learn about **forming comparatives** and **superlatives** with **longer adjectives**.



This is **the best** lesson!



Forming comparatives

Do you remember how to **form regular comparatives**? Look at these examples.



John is **kinder than** Elena.

Sue is **taller than** Carrie.



Gary is **louder than** Tom.



Forming comparatives

What happens when the **adjective ends in y**? Look at these examples.



Yumi's hair is **curlier than** Natalia's.

Pete is **lazier than** me.





Forming comparatives

- With some comparative adjectives, we must change their spelling. Look at the following examples:

Adjective	Comparative
big	bigger
hot	hotter
slim	slimmer
thin	thinner
sad	sadder

- When an **adjective** with **one syllable** ends in a **single vowel + a single consonant**, we **double** the **final consonant**.



Comparatives with longer adjectives

- We use the word **more** before the adjective to form a comparative with these adjectives. What is the rule?

Adjective	Comparative
intelligent	more intelligent
professional	more professional
reliable	more reliable
serious	more serious
naïve	more naïve

We use this structure for **adjectives** that **do not end in y** and have **two or more syllables**



Than



Remember, we always use the word **than** to form **comparative** sentences.

■ My workplace is **hotter than** my house.

■ Hannah is **more serious than** Mark.



Also remember that we use **comparatives** to **compare two things**.



Fill in the gaps

Choose the correct adjective to fill in the gap. Make sure you use the right comparative form.

professional

hot

big

serious

1. Sue's office is _____ than John's – his is really small.
2. The top floor of an office block is usually _____ than the ground floor on a sunny day.
3. Oliver is _____ than Ryan - Ryan laughs a lot and Oliver doesn't.
4. My boss usually looks _____ than me because he wears a suit and I wear jeans.





Categorise

Which adjectives take **-er/-r** to form the comparative and which take **more**?

intelligent

big

serious

hot

tall

naïve

professional

slim

-er/-r

more



Speaking

Make some guesses and compare these people. Who do you think is more intelligent? Who is more reliable?





Forming superlatives

Here are some examples of **forming superlatives** that you should remember.



John is **the kindest** person in my workplace.



Gary is **the loudest** person I know.



Yumi has **the curliest** hair in our office.



Pete is **the laziest** person I know.



Forming superlatives

As with comparatives, when a **one-syllable adjective** ends in a **single vowel + a single consonant**, we **double** that **consonant** to form the **superlative**.

Adjective	Comparative	Superlative
hot	hotter	the hottest
big	bigger	the biggest
slim	slimmer	the slimmest



Superlatives with longer adjectives

We use the words ***the most*** before the adjective to form a superlative for **adjectives** that **do not end in y** and have **two or more syllables**,
Look at these examples:

Superlative forms

the most professional

the most reliable

the most serious

the most naïve





Examples of superlatives

Look at these examples of **superlatives** in sentences.



My office is **the hottest** room in the building.

My boss has **the biggest** office.



Anita is **the most serious** person in my office.

Fred is **the most naïve** person I know.





Write the superlative form of these adjectives

reliable

hot

serious

intelligent

lazy

big

professional





Fill in the gaps

Fill in the gaps with the superlative form of the word in brackets.

1. Thomas is _____ (intelligent) person in my workplace.
2. Beatrice is _____ (kind) person in my office.
3. My _____ (reliable) colleague is Greg.
4. _____ (lazy) person I work with is June.
5. The basement is _____ (hot) place in my office because there are lots of computers there.
6. _____ (big) room in my workplace is the staffroom.
7. Alice has _____ (curly) hair in my office.





Make comparisons between these four workers





Speaking

Who has the biggest office where you work?

Which of your colleagues is the most serious?

Who is the most intelligent person in your office?

Which person in your office is the most reliable?



Irregular comparatives and superlatives

Some adjectives have **irregular comparative** and **superlative** forms. There are no rules, so you simply have to **learn them**. Look at three of the **most common** ones below.

Adjective	Comparative	Superlative
good	better	the best
bad	worse	the worst
far	farther/further	the farthest/furthest



Irregular comparatives and superlatives

Here are some examples of **irregular comparatives** and **superlatives** in sentences.



A café is **the worst** place to work for me.

My office is **the best** place for me to work.



Harry lives **further** from the office **than** Jules.

Computer filing is **better than** paper filing.





Fill in the gaps

Fill in the gaps with the correct form of the adjective in brackets.

1. Who lives _____ (far) from your office in your workplace?
2. What do you think is _____ (good) job in the world? Why?
3. What do you think is _____ (bad) job in the world? Why?
4. Do you think sending emails is _____ (good) talking on the phone?





Speaking

Now ask and answer the questions on the previous page with your classmates.





Speaking

Compare the people in the picture. Use as many comparatives and superlatives as you can.



The woman on the end has the curliest hair.

The man standing is the most intelligent.



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. 10

1. bigger, 2. hotter, 3. more serious, 4. more professional

Exercise p. 11

-er/-r: big, hot, tall, slim; more: intelligent, professional, serious, naïve

Exercise p. 17

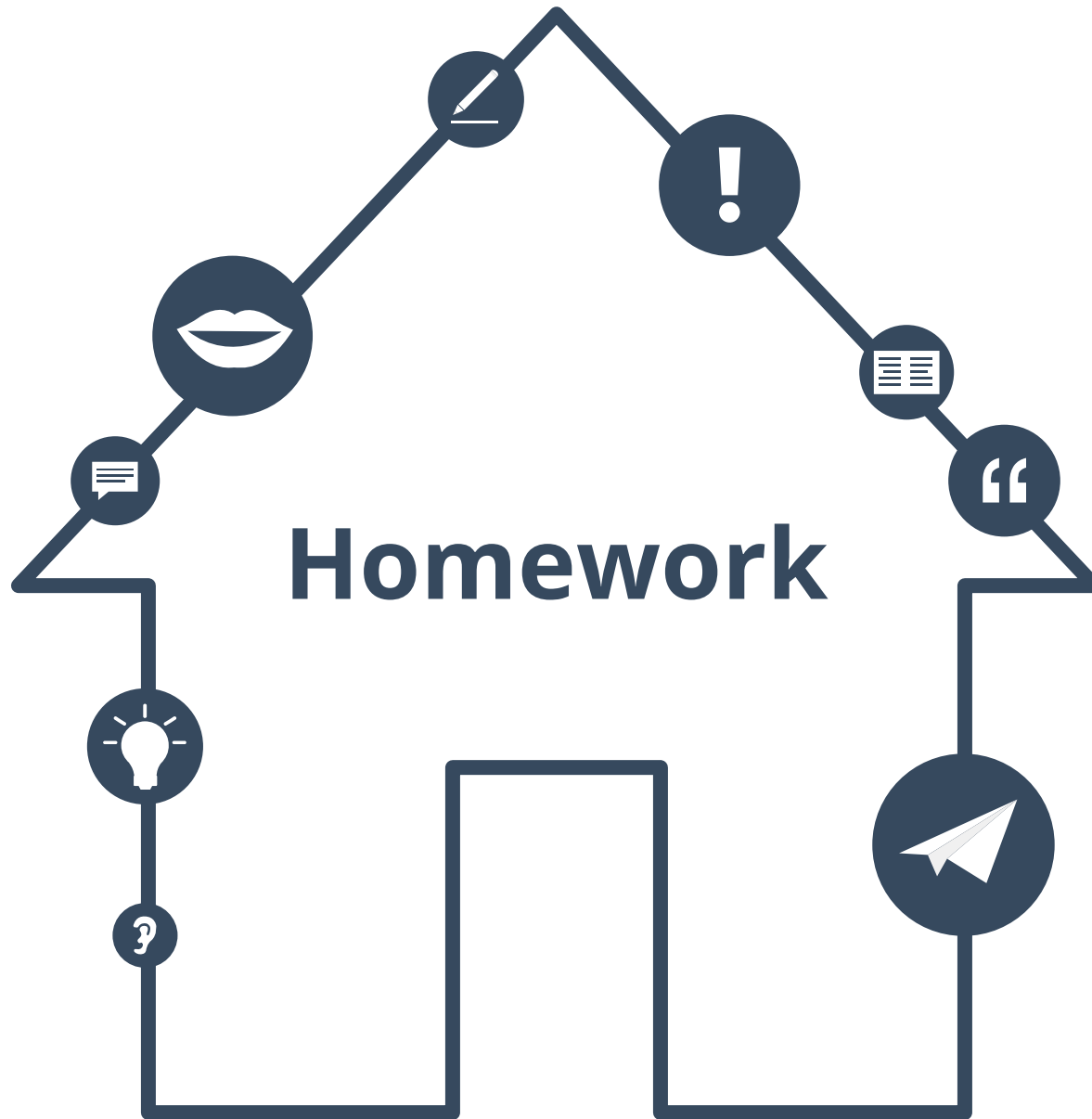
the most reliable, the hottest, the most serious, the most intelligent, the laziest, the biggest, the most professional

Exercise p. 18

1. the most intelligent, 2. the kindest, 3. My most reliable, 4. the laziest, 5. the hottest
6. the biggest, 7. the curliest

Exercise p. 23

1. the farthest/furthest, 2. the best, 3. the worse, 4. better than





Fill in the gaps with the words in brackets

1. Joyce is _____ (good) person in my office to ask about accounting problems.
2. Dieter has _____ (curly) hair than Emma.
3. Ernie is _____ (reliable) than Bert.
4. _____ (professional) way to dress for the office is in a suit.
5. Shane is _____ (lazy) person in my office.





Writing

Write 10 comparative and superlative sentences describing the people in the picture on p. 24.

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Homework answer key

Exercise p. 29

1. the best, 2. curlier than, 3. more reliable than, 4. The most professional, 5. the laziest



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