

Comparatives

Use:

Use the comparative form to talk about how two things are different.

I am taller than you.

This book is thicker than that one.

Form:

1) If an adjective has one syllable, add **er** to the end. If it ends in **e** already, just add **r**.

tall => taller nice => nicer

thick => thicker late => later

2) If an adjective ends in **one vowel and one consonant**, write the consonant again, then write **er**. But never write a **w** twice.

big => bigger new => newer (NOT newwer) thin => thinner slow => slower (NOT slowwer) slim
=> slimmer

My brother is thinner than me.

3) If an adjective has two syllables and ends in **y**, change the y to **i** and add **er**.

funny => funnier silly => sillier

Which of these books is funnier?

5) Some adjectives have irregular superlative forms. These are listed below.

good => *better*

bad => *worse*

far => *further*

Add **than** after a comparative adjective to compare one thing with another. However, this is not always necessary.

My house is smaller than yours.

Superlatives

Use:

Use the superlative form to describe something that is greater than any other thing.

The Amazon is the longest river in the world.

Helen is the most intelligent student in the class.

Form:

1) Write **the** before all superlatives.

2) If an adjective is short and has one syllable, add **est** to the end. If it ends in **e** already, just add **st**.

tall	=>	the tallest	nice	=>	the nicest
thick	=>	the thickest	late	=>	the latest

2) If an adjective ends in **one vowel and one consonant**, write the consonant again, then write **est**. But never write a **w** twice.

big	=>	the biggest	new	=>	the newest (NOT newwest)
thin	=>	the thinnest	slow	=>	the slowest (NOT slowwest)
slim	=>	the slimmest			

The biggest cat in the world is the lion.

3) If an adjective has two syllables and ends in **y**, change the **y** to **i** and add **est**.

funny	=>	the funniest	silly	=>	the silliest
-------	----	---------------------	-------	----	---------------------

It's the silliest film I've ever seen!

4) For other adjectives with two or more syllables, **DON'T** add **est**. Write **most** before the adjective.

interesting	=>	the most interesting	surprising	=>	the most surprising
-------------	----	-----------------------------	------------	----	----------------------------

It's the most interesting book I've ever read.

5) Some adjectives have irregular superlative forms. These are listed below.

good	=>	the best
bad	=>	the worst
far	=>	the furthest

6) a) **In** is often (but not always) used after a superlative adjective to describe where this statement is true.

London is the biggest city in England.

Everest is the highest mountain in the world.

My brother is the tallest person in my family.