

COMPARISON OF ADJECTIVES

There are three degrees of comparison:

Degrees of comparison

There are three Degrees of comparison of Adjectives.

- Positive Degree
- Comparative Degree
- Superlative Degree

1- Positive degree

This degree shows the amount of a particular quality in a person, thing, place or animal,

e.g. Osei is a tall boy. I saw a fast goat.

2. Comparative degree

This Degree shows the comparison of a particular quality between two nouns or pronouns,

e.g. Osei is taller than Musa.

3. Superlative degree

This Degree shows the maximum amount of a particular quality among more than two nouns or pronouns,

e.g. Osafo is the tallest boy in our class.

Study the examples below: they are short adjectives

<u>Positive</u>	<u>Comparative</u>	<u>Superlative</u>
Gay	gayer	the gayest
Easy	easier	the easiest
Quick	quicker	the quickest
Happy	happier	the happiest
Hot	hotter	the hottest
Long	longer	the longest
Small	smaller	the smallest

Thin	thinner	the thinnest
Fast	faster	the fastest
Great	greater	the greatest
Slow	slower	the slowest
Big	bigger	the biggest
Loud	louder	the loudest
Busy	busier	the busiest
Clever	cleverer	the cleverest
Wise	wiser	the wisest
Large	larger	the largest
Short	shorter	the shortest
Kind	kinder	the kindest
Fine	finer	the finest

Note the changes in the spellings of words printed bold in the above examples. More and Most are added before the positive of words two or more than two syllables to form the comparative and the superlative.

<u>Positive</u>	<u>Comparative</u>	<u>superlative</u>
Beautiful	more beautiful	the most beautiful
Intelligent	more intelligent	the most intelligent
Careful	more careful	the most careful
Comfortable	more comfortable	the most comfortable
Difficult	more difficult	the most difficult
Wonderful	more wonderful	the most wonderful
Careless	more careless	the most careless

Certain adjectives require different words to form the comparative and the superlative: e.g.

<u>Positive</u>	<u>Comparative</u>	<u>Superlative</u>
Good	better	the best
Old	older, elder	the oldest, eldest
Bad	worse	the worst
Little	less	the least
Up	upper	the uppermost
Much	more	the most
Many	more	the most

Near	nearer	the nearest
Far	farther, further	the farthest, furthest
In	inner	the innermost
Out	outer	the outermost

Some adjectives cannot be compared because of their fixed meaning. For example it will be absurd to say: square, squarer, squarest. Once a figure is a square.

Study more examples.

Positive	Comparative	Superlative
Round	round	round
Wrong	wrong	wrong
Circular	circular	circular
Full	full	full
Empty	empty	empty
Right	right	right
Monthly	monthly	monthly

EXERCISE 1

A-Tick the correct comparison and cross out the incorrect one.

- 1.Kwame is tallest than you.
2. I am more careful than you.
3. This is the oldest tree in our town.
4. Asare is the fattest boy in our class.
5. The “Le regard” is the more interesting newspaper in Ghana.

B- Correct the following sentences and rewrite them

6. Sena is more stranger than you.
.....
7. Aba is the most smartest girl in my class.
.....
9. The principal of our school is the more busiest person in our school.
.....
10. This movie is the most worst one I have ever seen.

.....
11. This cat is more bigger than a dog.
.....

12. That boy is more handsomer than you.
.....

13. These books are the most interesting than those books.
.....

14. A pine tree is more taller than a guava tree.
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EXERCISE 2

1. Under three heading, Positive, Comparative and Superlative, arrange the following words in their proper places: most generous, uglier, foolish, worst, better, long, shortest, gracious, thinner.

2. Write out the Comparative and Superlative of: merry, brave, red, fat, low, good, late, far, bad, little, much.

3. In each of the sentences below, pick out the correct adjective in the brackets:

a) Rita is the (tallest, taller) of the twins.

b) He is the (fattest, fat) boy in the class.

c) Which is (biggest, bigger): a cow or an elephant?

d) Abu is the (stronger, strongest) man in the village.

e) Victoria is the (fastest, faster) of the two girls.

f) Give me the (better, best) of the three apples.

g) You may take the (biggest, bigger) of the two balls.

h) Everest is the (higher, highest) mountain in the world.

- i) Who is the (taller, tallest) : Eze or Obi.
- j) He broke the (thinnest, thinner) end of the world.
- k) Of the two girls, Anna is (most, more) careful.
- l) Ben is the (smaller, smallest) of the triplets.

Complete each of the following sentences with the correct comparison of the adjectives in brackets:

- m) He is than Abdul(old).
- n) This is theof my two pens (bad).
- o) She is the girl in the class (brilliant).
- p) Of all the football players, Obi is the (good).
- q) This is the of the twins (fat).