

Adverbs

SUPERLATIVE ADVERBS

Superlative Adverbs

Superlative adverbs compare an action to three or more others.

There are several different ways to form the superlative adverb.

In addition to comparisons, they can also be used as intensifiers.

We often omit the group if the context is clear.

Superlative Adverbs – Examples #1

For one or two syllable adverbs, add 'est' or 'st' to the end.

Replace a 'y' at the end of the word with 'i'.

- Roy jumped *high*. Roy jumped *the highest*.
- Peter arrived *late*. Peter arrived *the latest*.
- John arrived *early*. John arrived *the earliest*.

For adverbs with three or more syllables, add *most* or *least*.

- Jack drives *carefully*. Jack drives *the most carefully* of them all.
- Stars shine *brightly* at night. Stars shine *least brightly* on a cloudy night.

Superlative Adverbs – Examples #2

There are some adverbs that have irregular superlatives.

- Sarah plays tennis *well*. Sarah plays tennis *the best*.
- Jim scored *badly* on the test. Jim did *the worst* in the class.
- Tony ran *far* today. Today, Tony ran *the farthest* (or *furthest*).
- Jenny ate *little* in the evening. Jenny ate *the least* in the evening.
- The superlative of *much* and *many* is *most*.

Superlative Adverbs – Examples #3

In addition to comparisons, *most* can also be used as intensifiers.

In this case, it means the same as *very*.

- The table was *most* tastefully arranged.
- Josi sang *most* beautifully during the concert.
- I await your arrival *most* eagerly.

Superlative Adverbs – Examples #4

We often omit the group if the context is clear.

- All the brothers run *quickly*. Tony runs *the quickest*.
- I work *best* by myself.
- Athletes run *fastest* after they have warmed up first.
- Birds sing *most actively* in the early morning.