

COMPARISON OF ADJECTIVES AND ADVERBS

Comparison is an area of grammar, where most students make errors, although it is not a very complicated topic. In this lecture, we will cover different aspects of comparisons in details.

Comparisons indicate degrees of difference with adjectives and adverbs, and may be equal or unequal.

Adjective or Adverb changes in form to show the comparison. They are called the three Degrees of Comparison.

Positive Degree:

The Positive Degree of an Adj. is the Adj. in its simple form. It is used to denote the mere existence of some quality of what we speak about. It is used when no comparison is made.

He is as ferocious as a tiger.

Comparative Degree:

The Comparative Degree of an Adj. denotes a higher degree of the quality than the Positive, and is used when two things are compared.

Harun's mango is sweeter than Rahim's.

Superlative Degree:

The Superlative Degree of an Adj. denotes the highest degree of the quality, and is used when more than two things are compared.

This boy is the strongest in the class.

1. এক Syllable বিশিষ্ট Adjective/Positive এর সাথে er এবং est যোগ করে Comparative ও Superlative করা হয়।

Positive	Comparative	Superlative
Great	Greater	Greatest
Poor	Poorer	Poorest
Rich	Richer	Richest
Strong	Stronger	Strongest
Tall	Taller	Tallest

2. Positive word এর শেষে একটি consonant এবং এর আগে একটি vowel থাকলে শেষের consonant টি দ্বিগুণ হয় এবং er ও est যোগ করা হয়।

Positive	Comparative	Superlative
Thin	Thinner	Thinnest
Fat	Fatter	Fattest
Mad	Madder	Maddest

3. Positive word এর শেষে e থাকলে r এবং st যুক্ত করে comparative ও superlative করা হয়।

Positive	Comparative	Superlative
Noble	Nobler	Noblest
Fine	Finer	Finest

4. Positive word এর শেষে y থাকলে এবং y এর আগে consonant থাকলে y উঠে গিয়ে ier এবং iest যুক্ত করে comparative ও superlative করা হয়।

Positive - Comparative -Superlative

Mighty—Mightier----- Mightiest

Busy----- Busier----- Busiest

5. Positive word এর শেষে y থাকলে এবং y এর আগে vowel থাকলে y না উঠে গিয়ে er এবং est যুক্ত করে comparative ও superlative করা হয়।

Positive -Comparative -Superlative

Gay -----Gayer-----Gayest

Grey -----Grayer -----Grayest

6. দুই বা ততোধিক Syllable বিশিষ্ট Adjective/Positive এর আগে বেশি বুঝাতে more এবং most আর কম বুঝাতে less এবং least যোগ করে Comparative ও Superlative করা হয়।

Positive- Comparative -----Superlative

Famous ---More/less famous--- Most/least famous

Intelligent --More/less intelligent-- Most/least intelligent

7. কিছু Positive word আছে যেগুলোকে Comparative ও Superlative করার কোন নিয়ম নেই।

Positive- Comparative- Superlative

Near---- Nearer----- Nearest, Next

Much---- More -----Most

Good ----Better -----Best

8. A few adjectives and adverbs have irregular and double forms for the comparative and superlative. You are required to remember this.

Adjective orAdverb---Comparative---- Superlative

far	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{farther} \\ \text{further} \end{array} \right\}$	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{farthest} \\ \text{furthest} \end{array} \right\}$
little	less/littler	least/ littlest
$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{much} \\ \text{many} \end{array} \right\}$	more	most
$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{good} \\ \text{well} \end{array} \right\}$	better	best
$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{bad} \\ \text{badly} \end{array} \right\}$	worse	worst
old	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{older} \\ \text{elder} \end{array} \right\}$	oldest
late	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{later} \\ \text{latter} \end{array} \right\}$	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{latest} \\ \text{last} \end{array} \right\}$

Equal Comparison

Rule - 01:

কোন Sentence এ **as.....as** এবং **so.....as** থাকলে বুঝতে হবে sentence টি **positive degree** তে আছে।

For positive degree, and affirmative sentences 'as as' is used

His Brother is as intelligent as he.

In the case of negative sentence, 'so as' is used.

Your tea is not so cold as mine.

He is not so stupid as his brother.

*** Which is the best translation of the sentence—**

সে তার ভাইয়ের মতো লম্বা নয়। (B Unit 2006 - 2007)

- A. He is not as tall like his brother
- B. He is not tall enough
- C. He is not taller than his brother
- D. He is not as tall as his brother

Rule - 02:

Different এমন একটি word যেটিকে use করে কখনো Compare করা যায় না। আর একারণে different এর সাথে কখনো 'than' use না করে 'from' use করতে হবে।

For Example:

My nationality is different from her.

Our climate is different from Canada's.

Unequal Comparison

Rule - 01:

কোন Sentence এর মাঝখানে than থাকলে বুঝতে হবে sentence টি comparative degree তে আছে।

For Example:

Remember always to use the subject form of the pronoun after than.

John's grades are higher than his sister's. This

chair is more comfortable than the other.

He speaks Spanish more fluently than I.

*** Rosy prepares her word ----- than Shamim**

(D Unit 1995 – 1996)

A. careful B. more carefully

C. most carefully D. so carefully

*** Professor Tucker was pleased because our group approached the project —— the others.**

A. most scientifically than

B. more scientifically than

C. the more scientifically than

D. scientifically as

Rule - 02:

Remember:

যদি দুইটি entity এর মধ্যে Comparison হয় তাহলে Comparative degree আর যদি দুইয়ের বেশি entity এর মধ্যে comparison হয় তাহলে superlative degree use করতে হয়। সাধারণ ভাবে Comparative form এর সাথে কখনোই the আসে না। কিন্তু যাদেরকে Compare করা হচ্ছে তাদেরকে যদি নির্দিষ্টভাবে বোঝানো হয়, তাহলে আবার Comparative form এর সাথে the use হয়। অর্থাৎ, of the two যদি থাকে কোন Sentence এ, সেক্ষেত্রে অবশ্যই Comparative form use করতে হবে এবং ঐ Comparative form এর সাথে the কে ও use করতে হবে।

subject + verb + the + comparative + of the two + noun

or

of the two + (noun) + subject + verb + the + comparative

For Example:

Rony is the smarter of the two boys.

Of the two shirts, this one is the prettier

Rule - 03:

Double Comparatives:

এটি Sentence এর একটি Structure যেটিকে আমরা 'যত তত' এই অর্থে use করি। এইক্ষেত্রে Sentence এ দুটি অংশ থাকে এবং এই দুটি অংশের শুরুতেই Comparative form হবে। এই Comparative form এর সাথে the হবে।

the + comparative + subject + verb + the + comparative + subject + verb

For Example:

The harder he tried, the easier it became

The finer the weather, the better the wind will be.

The more you review, the easier the patterns.

* ——— you study during the semester, ———

you have to study the week before exams.

A. The more, the least B. The more, the less

C. The most, the less D. The lesser, the less

* ——— we finish, ——— we can leave.

A. The faster, the sooner B. The fastest, the sooner

C. Faster, sooner D. The fastest, the soonest

* The less one earns, ———

A. the less one must pay in income taxes

B. one must pay fewer income taxes

C. less one must pay in income taxes

D. the least one must pay in income taxes

Rule - 04:

Illogical Comparatives:

সাধারণত : একই entity এর মধ্যে Compare করতে হবে। কখনোই আলাদা দুটি জিনিসের মধ্যে Compare করা যাবে না। যদি কখনো আলাদা দুটি জিনিসের মধ্যে Compare করা হয় তাহলে illogical Comparison হয়। একারণে যদি কখনো এরকমভাবে Compare করা হয় তাহলে that of কিংবা those of use করতে হয়।

For Example:

The Jute of Bangladesh is different from that in other countries.

The rules are different from those of soccer.

* The audience is ——— last year's concert.

A. much larger than that of

B. more larger than that of

C. much larger than that

D. more larger than that

E. much larger than those of

*** The rooms in the front are —— in the back.**

- A. more noisier than those
- B. much noisier than those
- C. much noisy than those
- D. more noisy than those
- E. much noisier than that

Rule - 05:

Multiple Number Comparatives:

Multiple Number (**twice, thrice, two times, five times, half, one third etc**) যখন কোন Sentence এ use হবে। সেক্ষেত্রে Multiple Number এর সাথে কখনোই more than use করা যাবে না। এক্ষেত্রে Multiple Number এর সাথে as much as কিংবা as many as কে use করা যেতে পারে।

subject + verb + number multiple + as + □ many / much + noun + as + pronoun/noun

This encyclopedia costs **twice as much** as the other one.

At the clambake last week, Fred ate **three times as many oysters as Barney.**

Jerome has **half as many records** now as I had last year.

*** The prince was very reasonable; I would gladly have paid three times —— he asked.**

- A. so much as B. as much as
- C. as many as D. more than
- E. as much that

*** After the purchase of the Louisiana Territory, the United States had —— it had previously owned.**

- A. twice more land than
- B. two times more land than
- C. twice as much land as
- D. two times much land than E. A+B

Rule - 06:

যে কোন Comparative form এর সাথে much কিংবা far use হতে পারে। এটা মোটেই ভুল কোনো formation না। Comparison টাকে intensify করার জন্য বা বাড়ানোর জন্য Comparative form এর সাথে much কিংবা far use হতে পারে।

subject + verb + much/far + adverb / adjective + er + than + noun/pronoun

subject + verb + much/far + less/more + adverb/adjective + than + pronoun/noun

subject + verb				
+	{	<i>far</i>	+	{
		<i>much</i>		
+	{	<i>more</i>	{	<i>adjective</i>
		<i>less</i>		
{	<i>adverb</i>	}	+	than +
{	<i>noun</i>	}		
{	<i>pronoun</i>	}		

For Example:

Harry's watch is far more expensive than mine.

That movie we saw last night was much less interesting than the one on television.

A watermelon is much sweeter than a lemon.

* He drives much ----- than he used to.

(B Unit 1999 – 2000)

A. careful B. carefully

C. more careful D. more carefully

* He looks —— now than he looked before.

A. much careful B. more carefully

C. much more careful D. careful

E. carefully

Rule - 07:

One of এর পরে Superlative degree থাকতে পারে আবার নাও থাকতে পারে, কিন্তু এই One of; sentence এর যে Position এ বসুক না কেন, এর সাথে Noun টি সবসময় plural হবে। আবার One of যুক্ত কোন word যদি sentence এর Subject হিসেবে আসে তাহলে Verb টি singular হবে।

He is one of my friend [Inc]

He is one of my friends [Cor]

One of my friends is a doctor

One of the greatest tennis players in the world

is Bjorn Borg.

Kuwait is one of the biggest oil producers in the world.

* One of the baskets full of rotten apples

thrown away. (D Unit 1999 – 2000)

A. was B. were

C. have been D. have

* Which one of the following sentences is

correct? (B Unit 2000 – 2001)

- A. One of my friends are a lawyer
- B. One of my friends is a lawyer
- C. One of my friend is a lawyer.
- D. One of my friends is lawyer's

Rule - 08:

any এর ব্যবহারঃ

any কে use করা হয় একটা individual এর সাথে একটা group এর compare করতে। এক্ষেত্রে any কে সতর্কভাবে use করতে হবে। কারণ যদি ঐ individual টি Group এর member হয় সেক্ষেত্রে অবশ্যই any other use করতে হবে। আর যদি ঐ individual টি group এর member না হয় সেক্ষেত্রে শুধু any use হবে।

Inc: *Iron is useful than any metal*

Cor: *Iron is useful than any other metal.*

Coal is more useful than any metal (Cor)

একই কারণে anybody, anyone কিংবা anything --- এরা ও একা একা আসে না। এদের সাথে else কে use করতে হয়।

You have more patience than any one else I know.

*** The United States spends more money on advertising ——— country in the world.**

- A. other B. other than
- C. than any other D. while other

Rule - 09:

কিছু word (*Inferior, Superior, Prior, Anterior, Posterior, Senior, Junior*) আছে যারা নিজেরাই Comparative form এদের সাথে কখনোই than আসবে না। এক্ষেত্রে Compare করার জন্য to use করতে হবে।
He is senior to me.

Rule - 10:

Former, latter, elder, further, inner, outer, upper – এই word গুলোকে Comparative form বলে মনে হলে ও এদেরকে কখনোই Compare করার জন্য use করা হয় না। এরা Noun এর সাথে normal adjective হিসেবে use হয়।

Rule - 11:

Usage of double forms of Comparatives and Superlatives

কিছু word আছে যাদের Comparative কিংবা Superlative এ double form আছে। কিন্তু যাদেরই double form আছে তাদের মধ্যে দুটি form ই কখনো Compare করার জন্য use করা হয় না। সবসময় একটাকে Compare করার জন্য use করা হয় আর অন্যটিকে Normal adjective হিসেবে use করতে হয়।

*** Later, latter; latest, last:-** Later, latter; latest, last:- Later and latest refer to time; but latter and last refer to position.

He is later than I

The last chapter.

*** Elder, older; oldest:-** Elder and eldest are used

only of persons not of animals or things. They also mean the position. Older and oldest are use of both persons and things. They really mean the comparison of age.

My elder brother is older than you by 5 Years.

* **Farther/ Further:-** Farther means more distant or advanced; further means additional.

Rule - 12:

Choice between ***different from*** and ***different***: ***Different from*** and ***Different*** have the same meaning, but ***Different from*** is used between the two nouns compared and ***Different*** is used after the two nouns or a plural noun.

The watch in the window is a little different from this one.

A nursery school is different from a day care center.

The watch in the window and this one are a little different.

A nursery school and a day care center are different.

Rule - 13:

Choice between ***the same*** and ***the same as***:

The same and ***the same as*** have the same meaning, but ***the same as*** is used between the two nouns compared and ***the same*** is used after the two nouns or a plural noun.

This car is the same as that car.

This car and that car are the same.

These cars are the same.

* Although we often use 'speed' and 'velocity' interchangeably, in a technical sense, speed is not always velocity. (C Unit 2002–03)

A. alike B. the same as C. similar

D. as E. As good as.

Rule - 14:

Choice between ***similar to*** and ***similar***:

Similar to and ***similar*** have the same meaning but ***similar to*** is used between the two nouns compared and ***similar*** is used after the two nouns or a plural noun This coat is similar to that one.

This coat and that one are similar

These coats are similar.

Rule - 15:

Choice between ***like*** and ***alike***:

Although ***like*** and ***alike*** have the same meaning, ***like*** is used between the two nouns compared, and ***alike*** is used after the two nouns or a plural noun.

This coat is like that one.

This coat and that one are alike.

These coats are alike.

Exercise: Correct the underlined parts if they are incorrect.

1. Australia is *the flatter and drier* of all the continents.
2. *The calmer* of the two horses was *more* suitable for amateur riders
3. The hunter fired gun when *the heavy* of the two bears charged at him.
4. *The more* the grasslands are overgrazed, *the fast* they become deserts.
5. *The more* populated the area becomes, *the more* noise one has to contend with.
6. The *most early* set of cards found in Italy is the Tarot Deck.
7. *The finer* the particles, *the better* they bond together when compacted.
8. Waiting to be developed is *smaller* of the two islands.
9. *Harder* the government tried to settle the nomads *the stronger* their resistance to change became.
10. Only the 100 *wealthiest* were allowed to become members of the club.

Answer Keys: 1. Flattest and driest 2.

Correct 3. the heavier 4. the faster 5.

Correct 6. the earliest 7. Correct 8. the smaller 9. the harder 10. correct

Exercise: Now choose the correct option:

1. This summary is (the better/the best) of the pair.
2. This is the (most prettiest/most pretty/prettiest) dress in the store.
3. Your heritage is different (from/ than) mine.
4. Who is the (most/more) famous novelist in the country?
5. This painting is (less impressive/least impressive) than the one in the other gallery.
6. The colder the weather gets, (sicker/ the sicker) I feel.
7. You have more experience than (anybody/anybody else)

applying for the position.

8. The museum is the (farther/ farthest) away of the three buildings.

9. George Washington is (famous/ more famous) than John Jay.

10. She takes her responsibility (seriouser/more seriously) than anyone else I know.

11. The (later/latter) part of the address contained some important points.

12. Our hotel suite is (farther/further) from the elevator than yours is.

13. Comparing other types of weather, we find the sunset (more colorful, most colorful) after a rainstorm.

14. My suit is (less appropriate, least appropriate) than hers.

15. Tuesday was the (cloudier, cloudiest) day of the week.

Answer Keys: 1. the better 2. prettiest 3.

from 4. most 5. less impressive 6. the sicker

7. anybody else 8. farthest 9. more famous 10.

more seriously 11. latter 12. farther 13. more

colorful 14. less appropriate 15. cloudier