

The Adjective sweeter is said to be in the Comparative Degree.
The Adjective sweetest is said to be in the Superlative Degree.

The Positive Degree of an Adjective is the Adjective 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.

The Comparative Degree of an Adjective denotes a higher degree of the quality than the Positive, and is used when two things (or sets of things) are compared; as, This boy is stronger than that.

Which of these two pens is the better?

Apples are dearer than oranges.

The Superlative Degree of an Adjective denotes the highest degree of the quality, and is used when more than two things (or sets of things) are compared; as, This boy is the strongest in the class.

Note 1:- There is another way in which we can compare things. Instead of saying 'Rama is stronger than Balu we can say 'Balu is less strong than Rama'. Instead of saying 'Hari is the laziest boy in the class', we can say 'Hari is the least industrious boy in the class'.

Note 2:- The Superlative with most is sometimes used where there is no idea of comparison, but merely a desire to indicate the possession of a quality in a very high degree; as,

This is most unfortunate.

It was a most eloquent speech.

Truly, a most ingenious device!

This usage has been called the Superlative of Eminence, or the Absolute Superlative.

Formation of Comparative and Superlative

81. Most Adjectives of one syllable, and some of more than one, form the Comparative by adding er and the Superlative by adding est to the positive.

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Positive -- Comparative -- Superlative

Sweet -- sweeter -- sweetest

Small -- smaller -- smallest

Tall -- taller -- tallest

Bold -- bolder -- boldest

Clever -- cleverer -- cleverest

Kind -- kinder -- kindest

Young -- younger -- youngest

Great -- greater -- greatest

When the Positive ends in e, only r and st are added.

Brave -- braver -- bravest