



Superlative adjectives

Short adjectives

Regular	add -est cold → the coldest
End in -e	add -st strange → the strangest
End in consonant + y	change y → i and add -est noisy → the noisiest
End in consonant + vowel + consonant	double consonant and add -est hot → the hottest

Long adjectives

colourful → the most colourful

Irregular adjectives

good → the best

bad → the worst

far → the furthest / the farthest

Usage

We use superlative adjectives to compare three or more things, places or people. To make superlatives, put *the* before the adjective, and add -est to the adjective, or *most* before longer adjectives.

The South Pole is *one of the coldest places* in the world.

What is the *hottest part* of your country?

The mountain gorilla is *one of the rarest animals* in Africa.

The blobfish is *one of the most interesting creatures* in the sea.

London Zoo is *the best zoo* in the UK.

January is *the worst month* to visit this country.

This is *the furthest town* from the capital city.

Remember: *the* always goes before the superlative.

These giraffes are *the most beautiful animals* in the National Park. NOT ~~These giraffes are most beautiful animals in the National Park.~~

Where is *the highest mountain* in this area? NOT ~~Where is highest mountain in this area?~~

can for ability and permission

To make the affirmative form of *can*, use the subject plus *can* plus the base form of the verb. *Can* has the same form for *I, you, she, he, it, we, you* and *they*.

I can play basketball. She can speak English.

Bears can swim.

We make the negative form with the subject plus *can't* (*cannot*) plus the base form of the verb.

In spoken and informal written English, we often use the short form *can't*.

Adam *can't run very fast*.

Ostriches *can't fly*.

We make questions with *can* plus the subject plus the base form of the verb.

Can you play a musical instrument?

Can camels survive in cold places?

Remember: Always use the base form of the verb with *can*, not the full infinitive.

Rabbits *can run fast*. NOT ~~Rabbits can to run fast.~~

Remember: Never use the auxiliary verb *do / does* in questions with *can*.

Can you dance? NOT ~~Do you can dance?~~

Usage

Can is used to express ability and permission.

Ability

I *can speak French and German*.

Can your sister swim? Yes, she *can*.

Can you play tennis? No, I *can't*.

Can your older brothers speak French? Yes, they *can*.

Permission

Can I watch that new programme on TV?

Yes, you *can*.

Can we go to the theatre tomorrow?

No, you *can't*.

Questions with How ... ?

To make questions with *How*, use *How* plus an adjective or adverb plus a verb.

How *heavy* is a crocodile?

How *fast* can an ostrich run?

How *far* is the station from here?

How *long* is this wildlife programme?

Use *How many ... ?* to ask about the number of things.

How *many* pandas are there in China?

How *many* elephants are there in this zoo?