

In the name of God , the most gracious , the most merciful

﴿ وَفَوْقَ كُلِّ ذِي عِلْمٍ عَلِيمٌ ﴾

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Comparatives and superlatives (المقارنات و التفضيل)

Comparatives and superlatives are special types of adjectives used when comparing two or more things.

What is a Comparative?

Comparative Adjectives are words used to describe a noun by comparing it to another noun. We usually put 'er' at the end like (big , bigger & small , smaller).

What is a Superlative?

Superlative Adjectives are words used to describe a noun when comparing it to two or more nouns to the highest or lowest degree , we usually put 'est' at the end like (big, bigger, biggest, & small, smaller, smallest).

***Note:** when the adjective follows the CVC, or consonant, vowel, consonant spelling, the final consonant is doubled..

One Syllable Adjectives*

Adjective	Comparative	Superlative
Tall	Taller	Tallest
Sad	Sadder	Saddest
Hot	Hotter	Hottest

Examples :-

- I am **faster** than my friend.
- Saja is **bigger** than Suha.
- Sami is the **tallest** student.
- That was the **shortest** movie in the series.

NOTE :

Most comparatives are followed by 'than', and most superlatives follow the word 'the'.

Two Syllable Adjectives **

mean adjectives end in -y , ed , ing , ful , ous , or less.

Comparative adjectives with two syllables can be formed by making the 'er' ending or by adding the words 'more' or 'less' before the adjective.

For superlative adjectives, you make the 'est' ending but use the word 'most' or 'least'

Adjective	Comparative	Superlative
Happy	Happier	Happiest
Boring	More\Less Boring	Most\Least Boring
Nervous	More/Less Nervous	Most/Least Nervous
Careful	More\Less Careful	Most\Least Careful
Quiet	Quieter or More/Less Quiet	Quietest or Most/Least Quiet
Interesting	More\Less Interesting	Most/Least Interesting

Examples :

- She tends to be **less passive** than her brother.
- This quiz is **simpler** than the last one.
- Fall is the **busiest** shopping season.
- This is the **most rapid** method of delivery.

Irregular Adjectives..

When using comparative and superlative adjectives, it is important to note that there are a handful of irregular adjectives that don't follow the rules above. The most common irregular adjectives are in the table below.

Adjective	Comparative	Superlative
Good	Better	Best
Bad	Worse	Worst
Little (Amount)	Less	Least
Far (Distance)	Farther	Farthest
Fore	former	foremost
Many or Much	More	Most

Examples:

- I did **better** than the rest of my class on the final.
- She ran **farther** in this race than she did in the last one.
- That was the **best** birthday present ever.
- I bought the **least** expensive souvenir that I could find.

Note :

If the adjective already ends with an 'e', only add 'r' for the comparative and 'st' for the superlative.

- **Nice** becomes **nicer** or **nicest**.
- **Brave** becomes **Braver** or **Bravest**.

If the adjectives end in a consonant and 'y', we change _y to _i and add _er or _est like :-

- **pretty , prettier , prettiest.**
- **dry , drier , driest.**

Give the comparative & superlative of these adjectives :-

Angry , beautiful , cheap , famous , kind , modern , sweet , wonderful , easy

Synonyms and Antonyms (المرادفات و المعاكسات)

- A synonym is a word that means the same or almost the same as another word for example : Smart is a synonym for clever , blew – down , start – begin , leave-move , agree-allow , home-house , tall-long , pretty-beautiful or nice , near-close , last-final , arrive-come.
- An antonym is a word that means the opposite or nearly the opposite of another word for example : Afraid is an antonym for brave , happy-sad , new-old , inside-outside , right-left , cold-hot , up-down , fast-slow , big-small , early-late , love-hate , good-bad.

The synonyms and antonyms that appear in the reading test and listening test are not always that obvious. During the Listening test for example, the speaker may use negatives to flip the meaning compared to the question or multiple choice options. These negatives can be with the use of ‘not’, as in ‘isn’t’, ‘can’t’, etc., or with words like ‘never’. You may even find that the speakers use longer discourse to portray this, like ‘I wouldn’t exactly say that it is something that I would recommend.

In many cases, we can use the prefixes "dis-", "in-", "mis-", and "un-" to form antonyms, or words which mean the opposite of the original word.

Examples :-

agree	disagree	correct	incorrect
informed	misinformed	able	unable
Like	dislike	healthy	unhealthy

*"The bigger the goal,
the longer the road."*