

Comparative and Superlative Adjectives Inglés



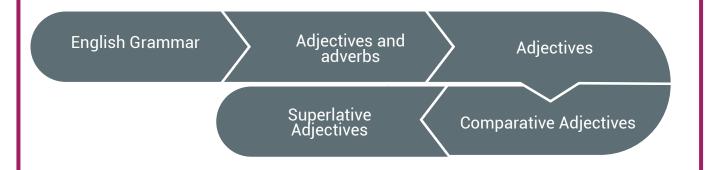






LEARNING PATHWAY

- With this worksheet, you will put into practice and consolidate your knowledge on comparative and superlative adjectives.
- This topic is part of the unit related to adjectives and adverbs, as illustrated in the following figure.



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INTRODUCTION

What are **adjectives**? Adjectives are words that **describe nouns**, providing us with extra information. Such information could be height (e.g. 'short' or 'tall') or how old someone (e.g. 'young' or 'old') or something is 'new' ʻold'). or Through adjectives, we can also know someone's opinion on a given topic (e.g. 'beautiful' or 'delicious'). At the same time, they allow us to recognize how someone is feeling (e.g. 'excited' or 'angry').

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Comparative Adjectives

We are going to use comparative **adjectives** for, as its name indicates, **comparing** two people, places, or things (Hall & Barduhn, 2016). Through this process, we will indicate what is/are the difference(s) between each other.

Comparative adjectives can be formed by **adding** the **suffix** '-er' or by adding the **words** 'more' and 'less' **before** the adjective (Hall & Barduhn, 2016), depending on what we want to transmit. We will know which form should be used by analyzing **the number of syllables** the word has. You will find some examples depicting what we just mentioned below:

ADJECTIVE	СНЕАР	FAST	EXPENSIVE
COMPARATIVE	CHEAPER	FAST ER	MORE EXPENSIVE

How to form comparative adjectives

When the adjective has only one syllable

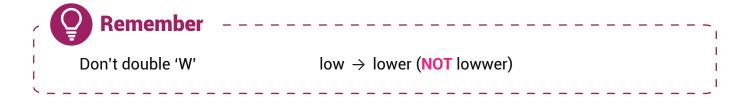
• -er	rich → rich <u>er</u>

When a short adjective ends in -e

• -r	safe → saf e<u>r</u>

When a short adjective ends in a vowel + one consonant (e.g.: slow)

• -er near → ı	near <u>er</u>
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When the adjective has two syllables and ends in -y

y → i + -er	sleepy → sleep <u>ier</u>

When the adjective is longer than two syllables

• more	dangerous → <u>more</u> dangerous

There are some exceptions to the patterns we have exposed so far: these are **irregular verbs**. Here we have some of them:

bad → worse far → further OR farther (Both options are possible)

Additionally, we will have to use the word 'than' after the comparative adjective for making comparisons.

Emma is taller **than** Mariah. This coffee is cheaper **than** that tea.

Superlative Adjectives

On the other hand, we have **superlative adjectives**. We will use superlative adjectives for **comparing people** and **things** with all of the group **they are in** (Swan & Walter, 2001).

Some people think Chinese is the most difficult language to learn among all.

Or to talk about extremes (Hall & Barduhn, 2016):

Charlie is the friendliest boy I have ever met.



We always use 'the' before superlative adjectives.

SOLVED ACTIVITIES

The following activities will help you to put into practice what you learned throughout this worksheet, giving you the opportunity to identify which area you need to reinforce.

- Read comprehensively.
- Go over and use this worksheet to support you.
- Do not look at the answer key until you finish the activities on your own. Challenge yourself!
- If you have any questions on this topic, write them down and share them with your tutor.
 Good job!
- 1. Write **comparative** sentences.
- **e.g.** Santiago is / expensive / Concepción. Santiago is **more expensive** than Concepción.
- a. My brother is / thin / me.

b. Arsenal played / well / Chelsea.
c. My old school was / exciting / my new one.
To complete this activity, please check the examples in the segment called 'Comparative Adjectives'. You will be able to correctly make comparisons after finishing them.
2. Write superlative sentences.
e.g. Is this the most important part of the test? (Important)
a. The month to visit them is January. (good)
b. Santiago is city in Chile. (polluted)
c. Last Monday was day of the year. (cold)
~-
To complete this activity, please check the examples in the segment called 'Superlative Adjectives'. You will be able to correctly form superlatives after finishing them.
Answer key
 My brother is thinner than me. Arsenal played better than Chelsea. My new school is more exciting than the old one.
2.a. The best month to visit them is January.b. Santiago is the most polluted city in Chile.c. Last Monday was the coldest day of the year.

Test your knowledge

Here, a series of **fill-in-the-blank activities** are presented. You will have to complete the blank spaces with the **required information**. This activity will help you to confirm how much you have learned so far. If you have any questions, read and go over the text once again. If you still have doubts, please take notes and share them with your tutor. Remember: the main objective of this worksheet is that **you** learn. Good job!

1. Write the co	mparatives adjectives.		
a. Big b. Small c. Strong d. Interesting e. Weak f. Easy		j. Funny k. Long	
2. Write the irr	egular comparative adjective	?S.	
b. Bad .		d. Little e. Many f. Good	
3. Write the su	perlative adjectives.		
a. Safe b. Strange c. Wide d. Lazy e. Dirty f. Intelligent		g. Hungry h. Careful i. Important j. Slim k. Boring l. Hot	
4. Choose a c o	omparative OR a superlative.		
b. The kitchen c. Russia is d. The sun is e. Mont Blanc f. French fries	na are	e house. (cold) be. (large)) mountains in the this menu. (chear	

Answer key

1. Write the comparatives adjectives.

a. Big	bigger		heavier
b. Small	smaller		more beautiful
	stronger		more complex
	more interesting	j. Funny	funnier
e. Weak	weaker		longer
f. Easy	easier	l. Noisy	noisier

2. Write the irregular comparative adjectives.

a. Far	farther/.further	d. Little	less
b. Bad	worse	e. Many	more
c. Well	better	f. Good	better

3. Write the superlative adjectives.

a. Safe b. Strange c. Wide d. Lazy e. Dirty f. Intelligent	the safest	g. Hungrythe hungriest h. Carefulthe most careful i. Important the most important j. Slimthe slimmest k. Boringthe most boring.	
		3	ıy.

- 4. Choose a comparative or a superlative.
- a. Tom and Anna are ...taller than.... John. (tall)
- b. The kitchen isthe coldest...... room in the house. (cold)
- c. Russia is ...the largest...... country in Europe. (large)
- d. The sun isbigger than...... the moon. (big)
- e. Mont Blanc isthe highest.....all the other mountains in the Alps. (high)
- f. French fries are ...the cheapest...... options on this menu. (cheap)
- g. Bus travel ischeaper than...... air travel. (cheap)

SUMMARY

To summarize, **adjectives** are words made for **describing nouns**. Among all the different categories related to adjectives, we have the **comparative** and **superlative** ones. We will use comparative adjectives when we want **to compare two or more nouns**, which are not necessarily from the same group or category, while **superlative adjectives** will be used when we want to make a comparison between a noun with others of the same group or category, or talk about extremes.



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- Hall, D., & Barduhn, S. (2016). English for everyone: A comprehensive visual reference. DK, Dorling Kindersley, USA.
- Swan, M., & Walter, C. (2001). The good grammar book: A grammar practice book for elementary to lower-intermediate students of English. 6th ed. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

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