

COMPARATIVE

and **SUPERLATIVE**

ADJECTIVES

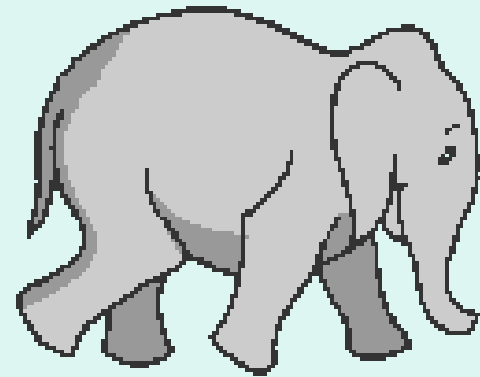
BIG



BIGGER



THE BIGGEST



WHEN TO USE COMPARATIVE AND SUPERLATIVE ADJECTIVES

Degrees of Adjectives

- Adjectives can express degrees of modification:

Gladys is a ***rich*** woman, but Josie is ***richer than*** Gladys, and Sadie is ***the richest*** woman in town.

- The degrees of comparison are known as the **positive** , the **comparative** , and the **superlative** .

positive: **tall** comparative: **taller** superlative: **the tallest**

Actually, only the comparative and superlative show degrees.

*We use the **comparative** for comparing **2** things and the **superlative** for comparing **3 or more** things.*

- Notice that the word *than* frequently accompanies the comparative and the word *the* precedes the superlative.

Mary is **taller than** Anna.



Anna is **shorter than** Mary.



Sarah is **the tallest** girl in the class.



To make comparative and superlative forms of adjectives some rules must be followed:

- **Rule 1**

One syllable adjectives generally form the comparative by adding ER and the superlative by adding EST.

POSITIVE	COMPARATIVE	SUPERLATIVE
soft	softer	the softest
cheap	cheaper	the cheapest
sweet	sweeter	the sweetest
thin	thinner	the thinnest

Note: if a one syllable adjective ends in a single vowel letter followed by a single consonant letter, the consonant letter is doubled and then the suffix is added.

th in



thin n er

the thin n est

If an adjective ends in E, this is removed when adding ER or EST.

wide
—

wider

the widest

If an adjective ends in a consonant followed by **y**,
y is replaced by **i** when adding ER and EST.

d **r** **y** **e**
the dr i est

- Rule 2

Two syllable adjectives which end in **Y**
usually form the comparative by adding
ER and the superlative by adding **EST**

Don't forget to change the y to i

luck**i**er
luck**i**est

prett**i**er
prett**i**est

the tid**i**er
the tid**i**est

- Rule 3

To form the comparative and superlative of adjectives that are two syllables and more and not ending in a **Y**, add **MORE** and **THE MOST** in front of the positive adjective.

more

more

more

more

more

the most

the most

the most

the most

the most

boring

careful

useless

modern

worried

However, a few 2 syllable adjectives can take either **ER** or **EST** or **MORE** or **THE MOST**. Here are some examples.

more / the most

common

er / est

more / the most

narrow

er / est

more / the most

pleasant

er / est

more / the most

useless

er / est

more / the most

simple

er / est

more / the most

quiet

er / est



EXCEPTIONS



- Irregular adjectives (**nepravilni pridjevi**)

good

better

the best

bad

worse

the worst

far

further/farther

the furthest / the farthest

little

less

the least

much/many

more

the most