



PUBLIC SCHOOL DARBHANGA

ENGLISH/ADJECTIVES/ CLASS V/ 2020-21

We can use Adjectives to compare two or more, places or things. E.g:

1. Ram is a tall boy.
2. Hari is taller than Ram.
3. Avi is the tallest of the three.

The Adjective ‘tall’ is in the **Positive Degree**. Here adjective is in simple form and represents the presence of some quality in the thing or person we speak about. It simply tells us “how Ram is” and there is no other person or thing in this sentence used to compare Ram with. Positive Degree is used when no comparison is made i.e. when we speak about only one person or thing.

The Adjective “taller” is said to be in the **Comparative Degree**. It represents a higher degree of the quality than the Positive. It is used to compare the qualities of two persons or things. Here height of Hari and Ram are compared and shows the difference of quality between the two.

The Adjective “tallest” is said to be in the **Superlative Degree**. It represents the highest degree of the quality. It is used when more than two objects are compared.

So, there are three Degrees of Comparison.

1. Positive degree.
2. Comparative degree
3. Superlative degree

Formation of Comparative and Superlative

Let’s see how the Adjectives form the Comparative and Superlative:

Rule 1: The following Adjectives form the Comparative by adding –“er” and Superlative by adding –“est” to the Positive.

POSITIVE	COMPARATIVE	SUPERLATIVE
thick	thicker	thickest
tall	taller	tallest
kind	kinder	kindest
young	younger	youngest
sweet	sweeter	sweetest
bright	brighter	brightest
bold	Bolder	boldest
clever	cleverer	cleverest
cold	colder	coldest
fast	faster	fastest
great	greater	greatest
high	higher	highest
long	longer	longest
small	smaller	smallest
strong	stronger	strongest
young	younger	youngest

Rule 2: If the Positive ends in “e”, only “r” and “st” are added to form the Comparative and the Superlative.

POSITIVE	COMPARATIVE	SUPERLATIVE
brave	braver	bravest
white	whiter	whitest
large	larger	largest
fine	finer	finest
noble	nobler	noblest
nice	nicer	nicest
pale	pale	palest
simple	simpler	simplest

Rule 3: If the Positive end in “y” and “y” is preceded by a consonant, the “y” is changed into “i”, before adding “er” and “est”. But if the “y” is preceded by a vowel, then “y” is not changed into “i”.

POSITIVE	COMPARATIVE	SUPERLATIVE
happy	happier	happiest
merry	merrier	merriest
lazy	lazier	laziest
heavy	heavier	heaviest
costly	costlier	costliest
dry	drier	driest
easy	easier	easiest
happy	happier	happiest
wealthy	wealthier	wealthiest

But – This is an exception to the above rule.

POSITIVE	COMPARATIVE	SUPERLATIVE
grey	greyer	greyest

Rule 4: If the Positive Degree has only one syllable and ends in one consonant, and the consonant is preceded by a short vowel, this consonant is doubled before adding “er” and “est”.

POSITIVE	COMPARATIVE	SUPERLATIVE
fat	fatter	fattest
hot	hotter	hottest
big	bigger	biggest
sad	sadder	saddest
dim	dimmer	dimmest
thin	thinner	thinnest

Rule 5: Many Adjectives of two syllables, and all Adjectives of the more than two syllables, take “more” before them to form the Comparative and “most” to form the Superlative.

POSITIVE	COMPARATIVE	SUPERLATIVE
faithful	More faithful	Most faithful
beautiful	More beautiful	Most beautiful
industrious	More industrious	Most industrious
courageous	More courageous	Most courageous
active	More active	Most active
attractive	More attractive	Most attractive
brilliant	More brilliant	Most brilliant
careful	More careful	Most careful
cunning	More cunning	Most cunning
difficult	More difficult	Most difficult
famous	More famous	Most famous
popular	More popular	More popular

Rule 6: The following Adjectives are compared irregularly:

POSITIVE	COMPARATIVE	SUPERLATIVE
good	better	best
little	less	least
Much/many	more	most
old	older	oldest
	elder	eldest
bad	worse	worst
far	farther	farthest
late	later	latest
near	nearer	nearest
in	inner	Inner most
out	outer	outer most

NOTE:

1. “Than” is used after the Comparative Degree. “The” is used before the Superlative Degree.

2. Do not use the Double Comparative and Superlative, such as more better and most loveliest.

3. A few Comparative are followed by “to”, instead of than; as, inferior to, superior to, junior to, senior to.

4. Each, every, either, neither, when used as Adjectives, go with singular Noun. Example- Every boy was punished.

Q. Now attempt the given exercise carefully choosing the correct form of the adjective given in the bracket:

- a. January is the _____ month of the year. (cold)
- b. Rajni is _____ than Seema (smart)
- c. A horse runs _____ than an ox. (fast)
- d. The painting I bought is _____ than this one (beautiful)
- e. This box is _____ than that one. (heavy)
- f. My land lady is a _____ woman. (generous)
- g. This mask looks _____ than the earlier one. (ugly)
- h. Who writes _____ Mohit or Ramit? (good)
- i. They have the _____ facilities in their area. (little)
- j. My _____ brother is a _____ player than me. (old, good)
- k. He is the _____ man I have ever met. (handsome)
- l. How _____ fruits were left in that basket. (many)
- m. My basket had _____ fruits than his. (many)
- n. She is _____ to me. (senior)
- o. Today’s story was _____ than yesterday. (exciting)

SELF- CHECK

- a) coldest b) smarter c) faster d) more beautiful e) heavier f) generous g) uglier h) better i) least j) elder, better k) most handsome l) many m) more fruits n) senior o) more exciting