

COMPARATIVE AND SUPERLATIVE ADJECTIVES

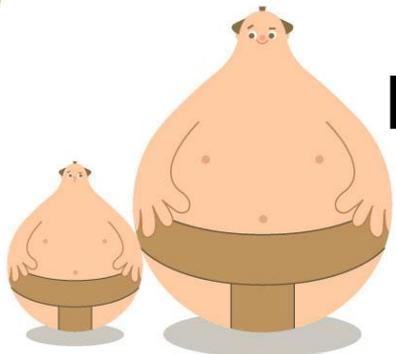


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Comparatives

Comparatives are used to show the difference between two objects.

Let's say that I have two cars. I have a little Toyota and a big Ford.

A comparative is used to show the difference between the two.

The Ford is big so we can say "the Ford is bigger than the Toyota".

Because the Toyota is small, we can say "The Toyota is smaller than the Ford". To learn to use these we need to learn five basic rules.

- ▶ Rule 1. If an adjective has 1 syllable we add the ending -er to the adjective.

- ▶ i.e. small + er = smallerer than

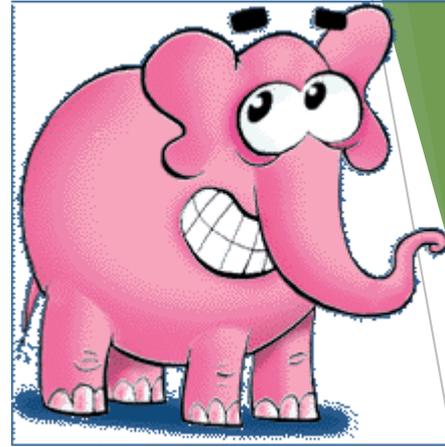
- ▶ i.e. hard + er = harderer than



The ant is smaller than the hippo.

- ▶ **Rule 2.** If a one syllable adjective ends with a consonant + a vowel + a consonant you must double the last consonant and then add -er.

- ▶ i.e. big + er = **bigger** than
i.e. fat + er = **fatter** than



The elephant is fatter than the giraffe.

- ▶ **Rule 3.** If an adjective ends with a “y”, remove the “y” and add -ier.

i.e. happy -y + ier = happier than

i.e. funny -y + ier = funnier than



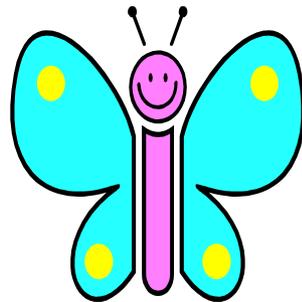
The girl is happier than the duck.

- ▶ Rule 4. If an adjective has two syllables or more without a “y” then add the word “more” before the word.
- ▶ If the adjective ends with a “y”, you will only add the word “more” if it has three syllables or more.

▶ i.e. beautiful + more = more beautiful than

i.e. expensive + more = more expensive than

i.e. satisfactory + more = more satisfactory than



The butterfly is more beautiful than the frog.

- Rule 5. There are a few exceptions.

good = better than

bad = worse than

far = farther than



•Remember, when using a comparative you must always follow it with the word “than”.

The Toyota is smaller than the Ford.

The Ford is bigger than the Toyota.

The ant is smaller than the hippo.

The elephant is fatter than the giraffe.

The girl is happier than the duck.

The butterfly is more beautiful than the frog.

Superlatives

Superlatives are used to show the difference between more than two objects.

Let's say that I have three cars. I have a little Toyota, a medium size Jeep and a big Ford.

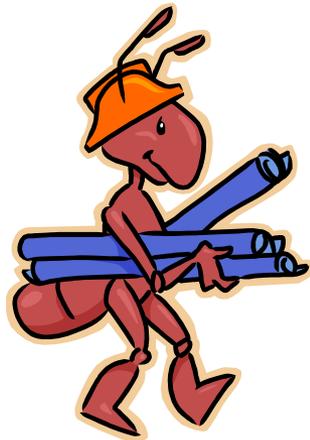
A superlative is used to show the differences that exist in the group. The Ford is big so we can say **"The Ford is the biggest"**.

Because the Toyota is small, we can say **"The Toyota is the smallest"**. To learn to use these we need to learn five basic rules.

- ▶ **Rule 1.** If an adjective has 1 syllable we add the ending **-est** to the adjective.

i.e. small + est = the smallest

i.e. hard + est = the hardest



The ant is the smallest.

- ▶ **Rule 2.** If a one syllable adjective ends with a consonant + a vowel + a consonant you must double the last consonant and **ad -est.**

i.e. big + est = the biggest

i.e. fat + est = the fattest

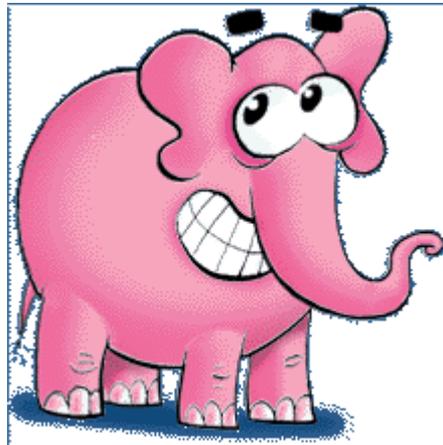


The hippo is the fattest.

- ▶ **Rule 3.** If an adjective ends with a “y”, remove the “y” and **add -iest.**

i.e. happy -y + iest = the happiest

i.e. funny -y + iest = the funniest



The elephant is the heaviest.

► **Rule 4.** If an adjective has two syllables or more without a “y” then add the word “most” before the word. If the adjective ends with a “y”, you will only add the word “most” if it has three syllables or more.

i.e. beautiful + most = the most beautiful

i.e. expensive + most = the most expensive

i.e. satisfactory + most = the most satisfactory



The airplane is the most expensive.

► Rule 5. There are a few exceptions.

good = the best

bad = the worst

far = the farthest



- ▶ Remember, when using a superlative you must always precede it with the word “the”.

The Toyota is the smallest.

The Ford is the biggest.

Brad Pitt is the most handsome.

The airplane is the most expensive.

Jim Carrey is the funniest.



