

ADJECTIVES: DEGREES OF COMPARISONS



Read the following sentences

1. Rita is a **fat** girl.
2. Anita is **fatter** than Rita.
3. Sunita is the **fattest** of the three.

When you see the above picture and read the sentences you will note that we are talking about the existence of the quality of fatness in three people, i.e. Rita, Anita and Sunita.

We are using **Adjectives** to compare the three girls. The Adjectives are *fat*, *fatter*, *fattest*. These are the three different forms of the Adjective *fat*.

1. The Adjective *fat* is in the **Positive Degree**. We use it when we are making no comparison.
2. The Adjective *fatter* is in the **Comparative Degree**. It denotes a higher degree of quality than the positive. It is used when two persons or things are compared (or two groups or persons or objects are compared).
3. The Adjective *fattest* is the **Superlative Degree**. It denotes the highest degree of quality. It is used when more than two persons or things are compared (or more than two groups of persons or objects are compared).

Formation of Comparatives and Superlatives

1. Some Adjectives form their comparatives by adding *-er* and the Superlative by adding *-est* to the positive.

Positive	Comparative	Superlative
Bold	bolder	boldest
Clever	cleverer	cleverest
Deep	deeper	deepest
Kind	kinder	kindest
High	higher	highest

2. If the Positive ends in *-e*, then *-r* and *-st* are added to form the Comparative and Superlative.

Positive	Comparative	Superlative
Able	abler	ablest
Brave	braver	bravest
Noble	nobler	noblest
Fine	finer	finest
Large	larger	largest

3. If the Positive ends in *y* and the *y* has a consonant immediately before it, the *y* is changed into *i* before adding *-er* and *-est*. But if the *y* has a vowel before it, it is not changed into *i*.

Positive	Comparative	Superlative
Easy	easier	easiest
Happy	happier	happiest
Healthy	healthier	healthiest
Heavy	heavier	heaviest
Wealthy	wealthier	wealthiest

4. By adding *er* or *est* to the positive when it ends in *-y*, with a vowel before it; as

Positive	Comparative	Superlative
Gay	gayer	gayest
Grey	greyer	greyest

5. If the Positive ends in a single consonant with a vowel before it, the consonant is doubled before adding *er* or *est*, as.

Positive	Comparative	Superlative
Big	bigger	biggest
Fat	fatter	fattest
Hot	hotter	hottest
Thin	thinner	thinnest
Sad	sadder	saddest

6. Most Adjectives of two syllables and all adjectives of more than two syllables form their Comparatives by having *more* and their superlative, by having *most* placed before them, as :

Positive	Comparative	Superlative
Beautiful	more beautiful	most beautiful
Cheerful	more cheerful	most cheerful
Difficult	more difficult	most difficult
Honest	more honest	most honest
Learned	more learned	most learned

7. Some Adjectives form their Comparative and Superlative degrees in an irregular way as :

Positive	Comparative	Superlative
Bad	worse	worst
Far	farther	farthest (distance)
Far	further	furthest (position)
Good	better	best
Late	later	latest
Little	less	least
Many	more	most (number)
Much	more	most (quantity)
Near	nearer	nearest
Old	older	oldest
Out	outer	outermost
Up	upper	uppermost

COMPARISON OF SOME ADJECTIVES

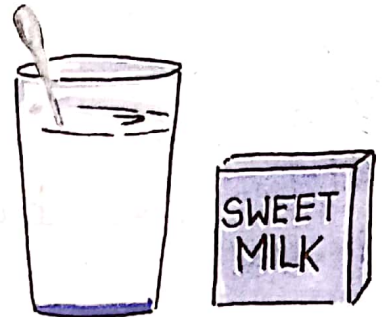
Some, Any

Some is used in affirmative sentence as:

He gave me **some** milk.

Any is used in negative sentences as:

I have not given him **any** information.



Each, Every

Each is used for two or more persons or things.

It is used when the number is limited, as:

Each child is honest.

Every is used for more than two persons or things.

It is used when the number is indefinite, as:

Every soldier fought for his country.



Much, Many

Much is used to show quantity, as:

I have **much** work to do.

Many is used to show number as:

He owns **many** shops.

Elder, Older

Elder is used for members of the same family.

It is not followed by "than" as:

I am Sita's **elder** sister.

Older is used for persons and things.

It is always followed by "than" as

This car is **older** than that.

Satish is **older** than you.



Chap - 16 Comparison of Some Adjectives

16.09.20

II. Make Sentences using the comparative forms of the following Adjectives:

1. bright - brighter
The sun looks brighter than other stars.
2. long - longer
My mother's hair is longer than mine.
3. dirty - dirtier
My sister made me dirtier when she splash the mud on me.
4. faithful - more faithful
Raman proved to be more faithful than his brother.
5. far - farther
She fell farther than she expected.
6. little - less
She finished the test in less time than her classmates.
7. ugly - uglier
This dress would make you look uglier than you are.
8. old - older / elder
I am two years older than my cousin.
Rita is my elder sister.
9. rich - richer
Spiritualism makes one's life richer.

10 pure - purer

The honey that is obtained from the (bee hive) is more purer than those available in the markets.

1 Supply the proper form of the Adjectives in brackets

1. Suresh is better than his brother in studies. (good)

2 Mr Tata is the richest man in India. (rich)

3 Kolkata is the biggest city in India. (big)

4. June is the hottest month of the year. (hot)

5 I have a bad cold. (bad)

6 He is one of the best singers. (good)

7 Shakespeare was the greatest of all playwrights. (great)

8 Mr Ramesh is wealthier than Mr Gupta. (wealthy)

9 Health is more important

than wealth. (important)

10

Your handwriting is better
than mine. (good).

Do Ex 1, 11 and 14 in your
grammar copy.

IV. Fill in the blanks with correct words.

1. My elder brother is a doctor. (older, elder)
2. Shashikala is prettier than Preeti. (preety, prettier)
3. There were less than thirty guests. (less, fewer)
4. The train was only a few minutes late. (a little, a few)
5. I have many friends. (much, many)
6. I haven't any money. (some, any)

