COMPARATIVES AND SUPERLATIVES

We use comparative and superlative adjectives when we want to compare and contrast things.

* **One syllable adjectives**

* You make the comparative and superlative of one-syllable adjectives ending in *e* adding *-r* and *-st*.
  
  *nice* = *nicer*, the *nicest*

* You make the comparative and superlative of other one-syllable adjectives by adding *-er* and *-est*.
  
  *fast* = *faster*, the *fastest*
  
  *short* = *shorter*, the *shortest*

* You need to double the last letter of adjectives that end in one vowel + one consonant, then add *-er* and *-est*.
  
  *hot* = *hotter*, the *hottest*
  
  *thin* = *thinner*, the *thinnest*

* **Two syllable adjectives**

* You make the comparative and superlative of two syllable adjectives ending in *y* by changing *y* to *-i* and adding *-er* and *--est*.
  
  *pretty* = *prettier*, the *prettiest*
  
  *busy* = *busier*, the *busiest*
  
  *tasty* = *tastier*, the *tastiest*

* Some adjectives can make the comparative and superlative adding *-er*, *-est* or adding *more*, the *most* before the adjective.
  
  *narrow* = *narrower*, the *narrowest*
  
  *more* narrow, the *most* narrow
  
  *clever* = *cleverer*, the *cleverest*
  
  *more* clever, the *most* clever
  
  *common* = *commoner*, the *commonest*
  
  *more* common, the *most* common
  
  cruel, gentle, pleasant, polite, quiet, simple, stupid, tired

* Adjectives ending in *-ful*, *-less*, *-ing*, *-ed* and many other adjectives make the comparative and superlative adding *more* and the *most* before the adjective.
  
  *careful* = *more* careful, the *most* careful
  
  *hopeless* = *more* hopeless, the *most* hopeless
boring = more boring, the most boring
surprised = more surprised, the most surprised
afraid = more afraid, the most afraid
famous = more famous, the most famous

* Three syllable adjectives and more.

* Adjectives with more than two syllables make the comparative and superlative adding more and the most before the adjective.
  interesting = more interesting, the most interesting
  expensive = more expensive, the most expensive
  intelligent = more intelligent, the most intelligent

* Irregular

* Some adjectives have an irregular comparative and superlative form
  good = better, the best
  much / many = more, the most
  far = further, the furthest
  bad = worse, the worst
  little = less, the least
  old = elder, the eldest (only for people in the same family)

Note

* We use than after a comparative adjective and the before a superlative adjective.
  You are taller than me.
  John is the shortest in the class

* We put the comparative and superlative adjective before the noun.
  The elephant is the biggest land animal.

* We use in or of after a superlative. We use in with places and with groups of people: the world, the team, the class ...
  It’s the most expensive hotel in Oxford.
  Alice is the best student in the class.
  Who is the best player in the team?
  August is the hottest month of the year.