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Comparative and Superlative Adjectives - Year 4

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COMPARATIVE AND SUPERLATIVE ADJECTIVES

BASE

Describes one thing.



tall

COMPARATIVE

Compares two.
Often add -er or use more.



taller

more careful

SUPERLATIVE

Compares three or more.
Often add -est or use most.



tallest

most careful

SPELLING SHORTCUTS

- e** Ends in e: nice → nicer → nicest
- CVC** Short CVC word: big → bigger → biggest
- y** Ends in consonant + y: happy → happier → happiest
- ★** Irregular: good → better → best

CONTEXT CLUES



Comparatives
often use **than**.



Superlatives
often use **the**.



BUILD THE DEGREES



Name: _____

Date: _____

Complete each row. Write the missing forms.

	BASE	COMPARATIVE	SUPERLATIVE
1	tall	_____	_____
2	_____	brighter	_____
3	_____	_____	smallest
4	nice	_____	_____
5	_____	larger	_____
6	hot	_____	_____
7	_____	happier	_____
8	noisy	_____	_____
9	careful	_____	_____
10	good	_____	_____
11	_____	worse	_____
12	far	_____	_____



CHALLENGE

Circle two words that change spelling before adding -er or -est.



BUILD THE DEGREES



Name: ANSWERS

Date: _____

Complete each row. Write the missing forms.

	BASE	COMPARATIVE	SUPERLATIVE
1	tall	<u>taller</u>	<u>tallest</u>
2	<u>bright</u>	brighter	<u>brightest</u>
3	<u>small</u>	<u>smaller</u>	smallest
4	nice	<u>nicer</u>	<u>nicest</u>
5	<u>large</u>	larger	<u>largest</u>
6	<u>hot</u>	<u>hotter</u>	<u>hottest</u>
7	<u>happy</u>	happier	<u>happiest</u>
8	noisy	<u>noisier</u>	<u>noisiest</u>
9	careful	<u>more careful</u>	<u>most careful</u>
10	good	<u>better</u>	<u>best</u>
11	<u>bad</u>	worse	<u>worst</u>
12	far	<u>further</u>	<u>furthest</u>



CHALLENGE

Circle two words that change spelling before adding -er or -est.

CHOOSE THE RIGHT FORM

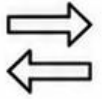


Name: _____

Date: _____

PART A

Circle the correct adjective. Underline the clue word.



1. This rope is (longer / longest) than that one.
2. Of the three paths, the forest path is the (narrower / narrowest).
3. Mia's puzzle was (more difficult / most difficult) than mine.
4. That was the (funnier / funniest) joke in the show.
5. A cheetah is (faster / fastest) than a zebra.
6. This is the (more colourful / most colourful) site of all.
7. My blue bag is (heavier / heaviest) than my red bag.
8. Sunday was the (hotter / hottest) day of the week.
9. Theo is (happier / happiest) today than yesterday.
10. The library is the (quieter / quietest) room in our school.

PART B

Complete each sentence with the correct form of the adjective.



11. The turtle is _____ than the rabbit. (slow)
12. Of all the towers, Tower C is the _____. (tall)
13. This book is _____ than the first one. (interesting)
14. Ella is the _____ player on the team. (good)

CHOOSE THE RIGHT FORM

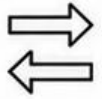


Name: **ANSWERS**

Date: _____

PART A

Circle the correct adjective. Underline the clue word.



1. This rope is (longer) / longest) than that one.
2. Of the three paths, the forest path is the (narrower / (narrowest)).
3. Mia's puzzle was (more difficult) / most difficult) than mine.
4. That was the (funnier / (funniest)) joke in the show.
5. A cheetah is (faster) / fastest) than a zebra.
6. This is the (more colourful / (most colourful)) of all.
7. My blue bag is (heavier) / heaviest) than my red bag.
8. Sunday was the (hotter / (hottest)) day of the week.
9. Theo is (happier) / happier) today than yesterday.
10. The library is the (quieter / (quietest)) room in our school.

PART B

Complete each sentence with the correct form of the adjective.



11. The turtle is slower than the rabbit. (slow)
12. Of all the towers, Tower C is the tallest. (tall)
13. This book is more interesting than the first one. (interesting)
14. Ella is the best player on the team. (good)



SPELLING RULE DETECTIVE



Name: _____

Date: _____

RULE KEY

- A. Add -er and -est.
- B. Add -r and -st.
- C. Double the final consonant, then add -er and -est.
- D. Change y to i, then add -er and -est.

Complete the forms. Write the rule letter.

BASE	COMPARATIVE	SUPERLATIVE	RULE
brave	_____	_____	_____
large	_____	_____	_____
thin	_____	_____	_____
sad	_____	_____	_____
funny	_____	_____	_____
busy	_____	_____	_____
safe	_____	_____	_____
big	_____	_____	_____

EXPLAIN

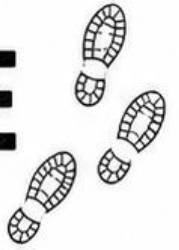


Why does happy become happiest, not happyest?





SPELLING RULE DETECTIVE



Name: **ANSWERS**

Date: _____

RULE KEY

- A. Add -er and -est.
- B. Add -r and -st.
- C. Double the final consonant, then add -er and -est.
- D. Change y to i, then add -er and -est.

Complete the forms. Write the rule letter.

BASE	COMPARATIVE	SUPERLATIVE	RULE
brave	<u>braver</u>	<u>bravest</u>	<u>B</u>
large	<u>larger</u>	<u>largest</u>	<u>B</u>
thin	<u>thinner</u>	<u>thinnest</u>	<u>C</u>
sad	<u>sadder</u>	<u>saddest</u>	<u>C</u>
funny	<u>funnier</u>	<u>funniest</u>	<u>D</u>
busy	<u>busier</u>	<u>busiest</u>	<u>D</u>
safe	<u>safer</u>	<u>safest</u>	<u>B</u>
big	<u>bigger</u>	<u>biggest</u>	<u>C</u>

EXPLAIN



Why does happy become happiest, not happyest?

Because happy ends in consonant + y,
change y to i before adding -est.



MORE, MOST AND IRREGULAR



Name: _____

Date: _____

PART A

Complete the forms.

BASE	COMPARATIVE	SUPERLATIVE
careful	_____	_____
beautiful	_____	_____
dangerous	_____	_____
interesting	_____	_____
important	_____	_____

PART B

Complete the irregular forms.

BASE	COMPARATIVE	SUPERLATIVE
good	_____	_____
bad	_____	_____
many	_____	_____
little	_____	_____
far	_____	_____

PART C

Circle the correct choice.



1. This map is (more useful / usefuller) than that map.
2. That was the (most exciting / excitingest) ride at the fair.
3. My second attempt was (better / gooder) than my first.
4. Of the five boxes, this one has the (least / littlest) space.

MORE, MOST AND IRREGULAR



Name: **ANSWERS**

Date: _____

PART A

Complete the forms.

BASE	COMPARATIVE	SUPERLATIVE
careful	<u>more careful</u>	<u>most careful</u>
beautiful	<u>more beautiful</u>	<u>most beautiful</u>
dangerous	<u>more dangerous</u>	<u>most dangerous</u>
interesting	<u>more interesting</u>	<u>most interesting</u>
important	<u>more important</u>	<u>most important</u>

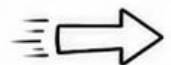
PART B

Complete the irregular forms.

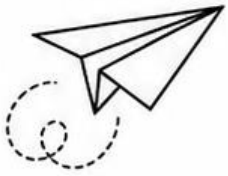
BASE	COMPARATIVE	SUPERLATIVE
good	<u>better</u>	<u>best</u>
bad	<u>worse</u>	<u>worst</u>
many	<u>more</u>	<u>most</u>
little	<u>less</u>	<u>least</u>
far	<u>further</u>	<u>furthest</u>

PART C

Circle the correct choice.



1. This map is more useful / usefuller) than that map.
2. That was the most exciting / excitingest) ride at the fair.
3. My second attempt was better / gooder) than my first.
4. Of the five boxes, this one has the least / littlest) space.



COMPARE AND EXPLAIN



Name: _____

Date: _____

PAPER AEROPLANE TRIALS

PLANE	DISTANCE	FLIGHT TIME	WINGSPAN
A	12 m	4 s	18 cm
B	15 m	5 s	20 cm
C	9 m	6 s	16 cm
D	14 m	3 s	22 cm

Use the data to complete each sentence.

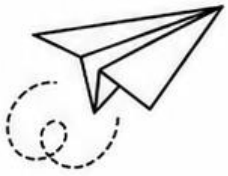
- Plane B flew _____ than Plane A. (far)
- Plane C flew the _____ distance. (short)
- Plane C stayed in the air _____ than Plane B. (long)
- Plane C had the _____ flight time. (long)
- Plane D had the _____ wingspan. (wide)
- Plane C's wingspan was _____ than Plane A's. (narrow)

Write two accurate comparisons of your own.

- _____
- _____

CHALLENGE

Which comparison uses a superlative? Explain how you know.



COMPARE AND EXPLAIN



Name: **ANSWERS**

Date: _____

PAPER AEROPLANE TRIALS

PLANE	DISTANCE	FLIGHT TIME	WINGSPAN
A	12 m	4 s	18 cm
B	15 m	5 s	20 cm
C	9 m	6 s	16 cm
D	14 m	3 s	22 cm

Use the data to complete each sentence.

- Plane B flew **further** than Plane A. (far)
- Plane C flew the **shortest** distance. (short)
- Plane C stayed in the air **longer** than Plane B. (long)
- Plane C had the **longest** flight time. (long)
- Plane D had the **widest** wingspan. (wide)
- Plane C's wingspan was **narrower** than Plane A's. (narrow)

Write two accurate comparisons of your own.

- Plane A stayed in the air longer than Plane D.**
- Plane B flew the furthest distance.**

CHALLENGE

Which comparison uses a superlative? Explain how you know.

Questions 2, 4 and 5 use superlatives because each compares one plane with all four.



WORD FORM PUZZLES ?



Name: _____

Date: _____

PART A: MYSTERY WORDS

Read each clue. Write the answer.



1. I am the comparative of small. _____
2. I am the superlative of noisy. _____
3. I am the comparative of good. _____
4. I am the superlative of bad. _____
5. I compare two things and start with more. My base word is careful.

6. I compare three or more things. My base word is _____

PART B: FIX THE MIXED UP FORMS

Rewrite each incorrect form correctly.



1. gooder _____
2. most funniest _____
3. happyer _____
4. more brighter _____
5. beautifulest _____
6. biggest _____

PART C: CREATE A CLUE

Write a clue for a classmate. The answer must be a comparative or superlative adjective.



Answer: _____



WORD FORM PUZZLES ?



Name: **ANSWERS**

Date: _____

PART A: MYSTERY WORDS

Read each clue. Write the answer.



1. I am the comparative of small. **smaller**
2. I am the superlative of noisy. **noisiest**
3. I am the comparative of good. **better**
4. I am the superlative of bad. **worst**
5. I compare two things and start with more. My base word is careful.
more careful
6. I compare three or more things. My base word is fur.
furthest

PART B: FIX THE MIXED UP FORMS

Rewrite each incorrect form correctly.



1. gooder **better**
2. most funniest **funniest**
3. happier **happier**
4. more brighter **brighter**
5. beautifulest **most beautiful**
6. biggest **biggest**

PART C: CREATE A CLUE

Write a clue for a classmate. The answer must be a comparative or superlative adjective.



I compare three or more things. My base word is bright.

Answer: **brightest**

COMPARATIVE OR SUPERLATIVE TRAIL

HOW TO PLAY

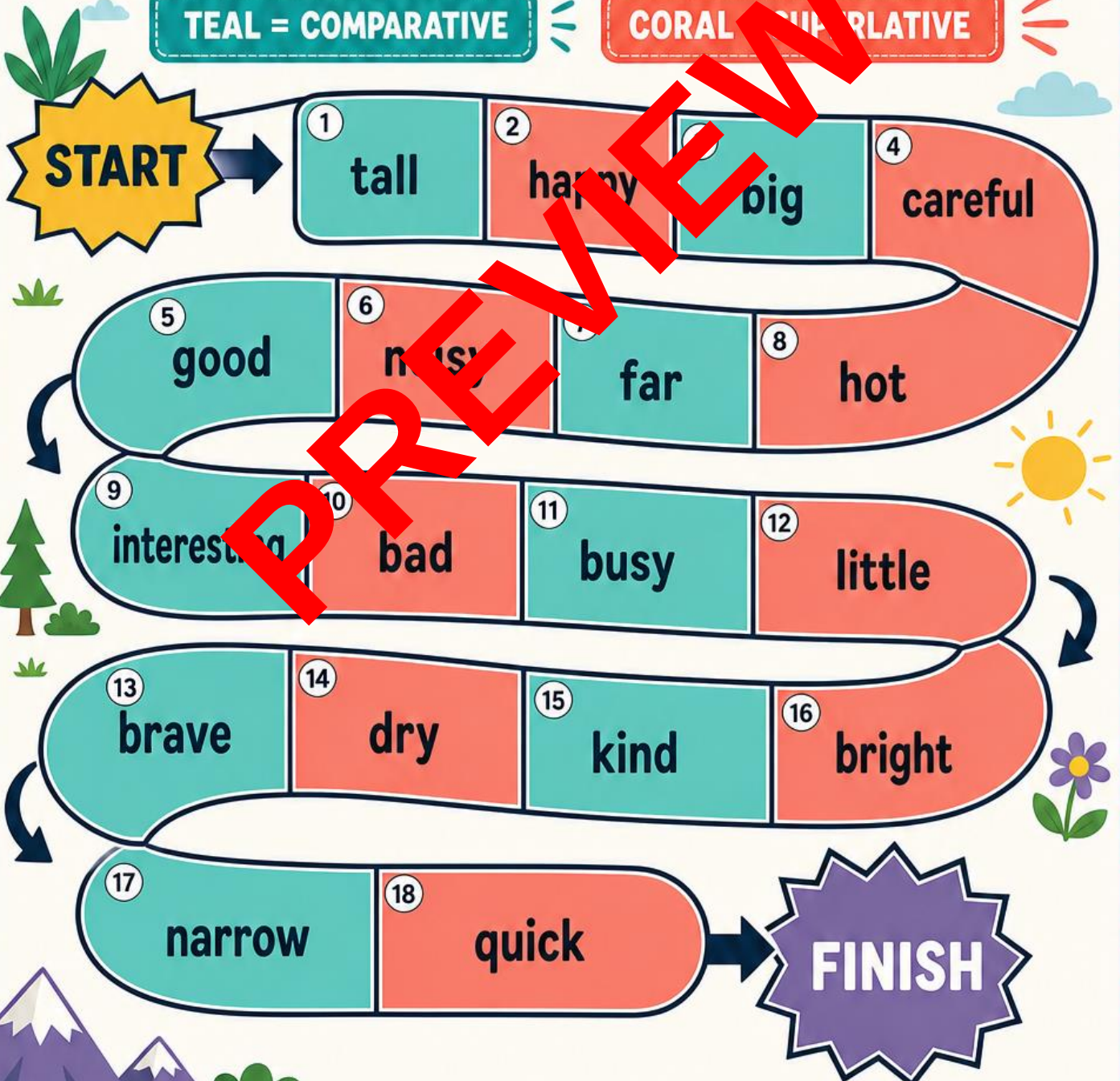


1. You need a die and one counter per player.
2. Roll and move. Read the adjective on your space.
3. **Teal**: say the comparative. **Coral**: say the superlative.
4. Correct answer = stay. Incorrect answer = move back one space.
5. First to FINISH wins.



TEAL = COMPARATIVE

CORAL = SUPERLATIVE



TRANSFORMATION TRIO SORT

HOW TO PLAY



1. Shuffle and share the cards.
2. Build six trios: base, comparative, superlative.
3. Place each trio in the correct row.
4. Say a sentence using one word.



	BASE	COMPARATIVE	SUPERLATIVE
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			

PREVIEW

TRANSFORMATION TRIO CARDS



Cut, shuffle and match the six trios.



noisy



bigger



best



happy



more careful



far



big



noisiest



better



happier



furthest



good



most careful



careful



biggest



noisier



further



happiest



SCHOOL FAIR COMPARISONS - ASSESSMENT 1

Name: _____

Date: _____



PART A

Complete the base, comparative and superlative forms.

BASE	COMPARATIVE	SUPERLATIVE
bright	_____	_____
_____	larger	_____
noisy	_____	_____
_____	_____	hottest
careful	_____	_____
good	_____	_____
bad	_____	_____
far	_____	_____

PART B

Circle the correct adjective.

1. The blue banner is (longer / longest) than the red banner.
2. Of the three cakes, the chocolate cake is the (richer / richest).
3. The game stall was (more popular / most popular) than the plant stall.
4. This was the (more exciting / most exciting) event of the day.
5. Kai's second throw was (better / best) than his first.
6. Of all the displays, the science display was the (brighter / brightest).

SCHOOL FAIR COMPARISONS - ASSESSMENT 1

Name: ANSWERS

Date: _____



PART A

Complete the base, comparative and superlative forms.

BASE	COMPARATIVE	SUPERLATIVE
bright	<u>brighter</u>	<u>brightest</u>
<u>large</u>	<u>larger</u>	<u>largest</u>
noisy	<u>noisier</u>	<u>noisiest</u>
<u>hot</u>	<u>hotter</u>	<u>hottest</u>
careful	<u>more careful</u>	<u>most careful</u>
good	<u>better</u>	<u>best</u>
bad	<u>worse</u>	<u>worst</u>
far	<u>further</u>	<u>furthest</u>

PART B

Circle the correct adjective.

1. The blue banner is (longer / longest) than the red banner.
2. Of the three cakes, the chocolate cake is the (richer / richest).
3. The game stall was (more popular / most popular) than the plant stall.
4. This was the (more exciting / most exciting) event of the day.
5. Kai's second throw was (better / best) than his first.
6. Of all the displays, the science display was the (brighter / brightest).

SCHOOL FAIR COMPARISONS - ASSESSMENT 2

Name: _____

Date: _____

PART C

Use each word from the box once to complete the paragraph.

more colourful

taller

busiest

further

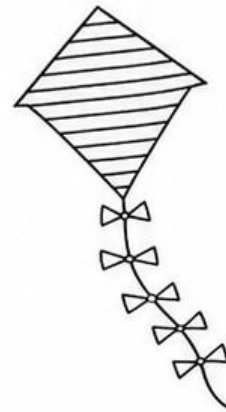
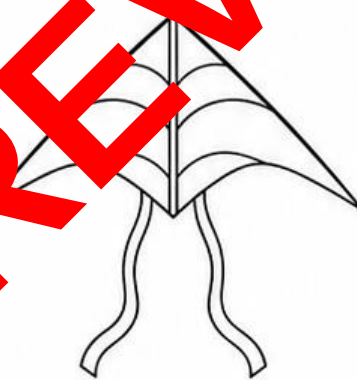
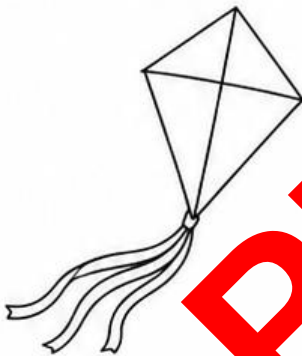
most interesting

best

At the school fair, the art stall was _____ than the book stall. The giant kite was _____ than the striped kite. Of all the stalls, the games stall was the _____. Maya's model travelled _____ than the other models. She said the science display was the _____ display at the fair. Her team's result was the _____ of the day.

PART D

Write one comparative and one superlative sentence about the three kites.



Comparative: _____

Superlative: _____

PART E

How can clue words such as **than** and **the** help you choose the correct form?

SCHOOL FAIR COMPARISONS - ASSESSMENT 2

Name: ANSWERS

Date: _____

PART C

Use each word from the box once to complete the paragraph.

more colourful taller busiest further most interesting best

At the school fair, the art stall was more colourful than the book stall. The giant kite was taller than the striped kite. Of all the stalls, the games stall was the busiest. Maya's model travelled further than the other models. She said the science display was the most interesting display at the fair. Her team's result was the best of the day.

PART D

Write one comparative and one superlative sentence about the three kites.



Comparative: The left kite is taller than the striped kite.

Superlative: The middle kite is the largest of the three.

PART E

How can clue words such as **than** and **the** help you choose the correct form?

Than often signals a comparative between two. The often
introduces a superlative for three or more.

COMPARATIVE AND SUPERLATIVE ADJECTIVES RUBRIC



Student: _____

Date: _____



CRITERIA	BEGINNING	DEVELOPING	ACHIEVING	CONFIDENT	EXCEEDING
Identifies purpose and form	Needs support to tell the forms apart.	Identifies some forms with prompts.	Usually identifies the correct form.	Identifies forms accurately and explains why.	Explains subtle choices using clear evidence.
Forms regular and spelling-change adjectives	Forms few words correctly.	Uses -er and -est with some accuracy.	Applies common spelling changes correctly.	Applies all taught spelling patterns accurately.	Applies patterns accurately to unfamiliar words.
Uses <i>more</i> , <i>most</i> and irregular forms	Needs support with <i>more</i> , <i>most</i> and irregular forms.	Uses some forms correctly.	Uses common forms correctly.	Uses a wide range accurately.	Chooses forms precisely and justifies choices.
Applies forms in sentences	Sentences are incomplete or unclear.	Writes simple comparisons with errors.	Writes clear, mostly accurate comparisons.	Writes varied, accurate comparisons.	Writes fluent comparisons and explains the effect.

Comparative and Superlative Adjectives





Learning intention

We are learning to form and use comparative and superlative adjectives.

Success looks like:

- I can choose a form that matches what is compared.
- I can apply spelling changes.
- I can use more, most and less, the least.





Three degrees of comparison

Base: describes one thing — tall

Comparative: compares two — taller

Superlative: compares three or more — tallest

The adjective changes to show the length of the comparison.





Two or three or more?

Compare two → comparative

The red rope is longer than the blue rope.

Compare three or more → superlative

The green rope is the longest of the three.

Look for than, the, and in.





Regular short adjectives

Most short adjectives take -er and -est.

small → smaller → smallest

bright → brighter → brightest

quick → quicker → quickest

Do not use both -er and -est.



PREVIEW



Words that end in e

Keep the e and add -r or -st.

nice → nicer → nicest

large → larger → largest

safe → safer → safest



PREVIEW



Short CVC words

For many short consonant-vowel-consonant words, double the final consonant.

big → bigger → biggest

hot → hotter → hottest

thin → thinner → thinnest



PREVIEW



Words that end in consonant y

Change y to i before adding -er or -est.

happy → happier → happiest

busy → busier → busiest

noisy → noisier → noisiest



PREVIEW



Use more and most

Longer adjectives usually use more and most.

careful → more careful → most careful

interesting → more interesting → most interesting

beautiful → more beautiful → most beautiful

Avoid carefuller or more interestinge



PREVIEW



Irregular forms

Some adjectives change completely.

good → better → best

bad → worse → worst

many → more → most

little → less → least

far → further → farther



PREVIEW



Context clues

Comparatives often use than.

This book is more interesting than the first.

Superlatives often use the, of or in.

This is the most interesting book in the series.



PREVIEW



Guided practice

Complete each trio.

1. brave → _____ → _____

2. _____ → noisier → _____

3. good → _____ → _____

4. careful → _____ → _____





Check and explain

1. brave → braver → bravest
2. noisy → noisier → noisiest
3. good → better → best
4. careful → more careful → most careful

Which spelling or word-form did you use?





Choose the form

1. This path is (narrower / narrowest) than that one.
2. Of all the kites, the red kite is the (higher / highest).
3. My puzzle is (more difficult / most difficult) than yours.
4. That was the (funnier / funniest) joke in the show.





Check the clues

1. narrower — than compares two
2. highest — of all compares more than two
3. more difficult — than compares two
4. funniest — the ... in the show compares the whole group



PREVIEW



Editing challenge

Rewrite each comparison correctly.

1. This tower is more taller than that one.
2. Mia is the happiest player on the team.
3. That was the most funny joke of all.
4. My second attempt was better than the first.





Editing answers and review

1. This tower is taller than that one.
2. Mia is the happiest player on the team.
3. That was the funniest joke of all.
4. My second attempt was better than my first.

Check the number compounds, spelling and word form.





PREVIEW

Well Done!



PREVIEW

Comparative and Superlative Adjectives Quiz





Question 1 — True or False

A comparative adjective usually compares two people, places, things or...

TRUE or FALSE?



PREVIEW



Answer 1

TRUE

A comparative shows how two things differ.



PREVIEW



Question 2 — Multiple Choice

Which word correctly completes the sentence?

The torch is _____ than the candle.

- A. bright
- B. brighter
- C. brightest
- D. more brightest





Answer 2

B. brighter

Than signals a comparison between two things.



PREVIEW



Question 3 — Short Answer

Write the superlative form of noisy.



PREVIEW



Answer 3

noisiest

Change y to i, then add -est.



PREVIEW



Question 4 — Multiple Choice

Which sentence is correct?

- A. The blue rope is longest than the red rope.
- B. The blue rope is longer than the red rope.
- C. The blue rope is more longer than the red rope.
- D. The blue rope is the longer than all the other ropes.





Answer 4

B. The blue rope is longer than the red rope.

Longer is the comparative form used for two ropes.



PREVIEW



Question 5 — True or False

“Mia is the most kindest student in the group” uses the correct fo

TRUE or FALSE?



PREVIEW



Answer 5

FALSE

Use kindest. Do not combine most and -est.



PREVIEW



Question 6 — Short Answer

Complete the irregular trio.

good → _____ → _____



PREVIEW



Answer 6

good → better → best



PREVIEW



Question 7 — Multiple Choice

Which word correctly completes the sentence?

Of the three boxes, Box C is the _____.

- A. large
- B. larger
- C. largest
- D. more large



PREVIEW



Answer 7

C. largest

Of the three signals the superlative form.



PREVIEW



Question 8 — Short Answer

Write the comparative form of interesting.



PREVIEW



Answer 8

more interesting

Longer adjectives commonly use more for a comparative.



PREVIEW



Question 9 — Multiple Choice

Which word correctly completes the sentence?

Of all the runners, Sam was the _____.

- A. quick
- B. quicker
- C. quickest
- D. more quickest



PREVIEW



Answer 9

C. quickest

Of all signals the superlative form.



PREVIEW



Question 10 — True or False

Superlative adjectives often follow the word the.

TRUE or FALSE?



PREVIEW



Answer 10

TRUE

For example: the tallest, the most careful and the most



PREVIEW



PREVIEW

Well Done!

