

Lesson 21
READER'S NOTEBOOK

Name _____ Date _____

Comparative Forms of Adjectives

The World According to Humphrey

Grammar: Comparative and Superlative Adjectives and Adverbs

A **comparative adjective** compares one person, place, or thing to another. To form a comparative adjective, you can usually add *-er* to the adjective. If the adjective ends in *y*, change the *y* to *i* before adding *-er*.

adjective

Josh is tall.

The weather is dry today.

comparative adjective

Jacob is taller than Josh.

The weather is drier today than yesterday.

Thinking Questions

Are there two persons, places, or things being compared? Does the adjective end in -er or use more?

1–4. Write the comparative form of the adjective in each sentence.

1. I think that spring feels (warm) _____ than winter.
2. My dog seems hungry, but your dog looks _____.
3. Maddie is short, but Cindy is _____.
4. Her song is lovely, but I think your song sounds _____.

Some comparative adjectives are formed by adding the word *more*. Usually longer adjectives form the comparative this way.

Joe is more polite than Henry.

5–8. Write the comparative form of each adjective.

5. Sally felt (miserable) _____ when she knew she had the flu.
6. That company is (efficient) _____ than its competitor.
7. Will you feel (comfortable) _____ sitting here?
8. Tonight's dinner tastes (delicious) _____ than last night's.

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Superlative Forms of Adjectives

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Grammar: Comparing with Adjectives and Adverbs

When we use adjectives to compare more than two persons, places, or things, we use the superlative form of the adjective. To form a **superlative adjective**, add *-est* or write *most* before the adjective.

Adjective	Comparative	Superlative
happy	happier	happiest
complex	more complex	most complex

Emily is luckier than Mary, but Alyssa is the luckiest of all.

Without a map, Gregory is more confused than Lew, but Edwin is the most confused.

Thinking Questions

Are there more than two persons, places, or things being compared? Does the adjective end in *-est* or use *most*?

1–5. Write the correct form of the adjective in parentheses to complete the sentence.

- A rose is pretty, but Tom thinks an orchid is (pretty)
_____.
- Susan says that of all the flowers, the peony is the (pretty)
_____.
- This tulip is the (bright) _____ shade of red I've ever seen.
- Carrie told him that lavender smells (wonderful)
_____.
- Trees grow the (tall) _____ of all plants.

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Comparative and Superlative Forms of Adverbs

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Grammar: Comparing with Adjectives and Adverbs

Adverbs often work with verbs and tell how, when, or where an action happens. They are used with action verbs, and many end with *-ly*. A **comparative adverb** compares the action of two or more things. The word *more* is often used. A **superlative adverb** compares the action of more than two things. The word *most* is often used.

Adverb	Comparative	Superlative
slowly	more slowly	most slowly
soon	sooner	soonest
promptly	more promptly	most promptly

Thinking Questions

Does the adverb end in *-ly*? Is the word *more* or *most* added?

Use a comparative or superlative adverb for each blank below. Use the list on the right to help you complete the sentences.

- Although many musicians were loud, Donald played the trumpet _____.
- Sarah could add numbers _____ than her brother.
- Jerry ran _____ than his best friend.
- Of all my friends, Carmin lives _____.
- Marty worked _____ on the project than his partner.
- Jeremy answered the question _____ of the three contestants.

louder
loudest
more quickly
most quickly
more completely
most completely
closer
closest
harder
hardest
faster
fastest

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Prepositions and Prepositional Phrases

The World According to Humphrey
Grammar: Spiral Review

Preposition	Prepositional Phrase
from	Removing a wild animal <u>from its home</u> is not wise.

Underline the preposition twice and the rest of the prepositional phrase once in each sentence.

- The young turtles stepped slowly into the busy, dangerous road.
- Ms. Roland spotted the three turtles on her long walk.
- She treats all animals with respect and kindness.
- She carried the young turtles to safety.
- The tiny creatures had wandered from the green, grassy marsh.
- The marsh beside the forest was a better home than the highway!

Combine each pair of sentences. Write the new sentence on the line. Capitalize and punctuate correctly.

7. Ms. Roland hummed as she walked. She walked to her home.

8. She fed her fish and watched them. They swam around their tank.

9. You should be happy. You should be happy you live in a safe home.

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Word Choice

**The World According
 to Humphrey**
 Grammar: Connect to Writing

Using more exact comparative and superlative adjectives and adverbs can make your writing more interesting.

Less Exact	More Exact
Dinner smells <u>better</u> than lunch.	Dinner smells <u>spicier</u> and <u>more delicious</u> than lunch.
The big box is the <u>heaviest</u> .	The big box is the <u>most impossible</u> to fit!

Rewrite each sentence to make it more interesting. Try to use more exact adjectives and adverbs.

1. My favorite star is brighter than a light bulb.

2. It is maybe the brightest star.

3. Don't you think the sun shines more clearly than your star?

4. The sun seems so strong to us because it is the closest to us.

5. The sun's role in our lives is bigger than the moon's.

6. Sun energy is even better than wind energy.

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Focus Trait: Evidence

**The World According
to Humphrey**
Writing: Informative Writing

The audience will better understand your ideas if you provide relevant evidence in your writing. All evidence should support the main idea and give details about the topic.

Read the paragraph below. Circle the sentence that would make the best topic sentence to start the paragraph. Underline two details that do not belong in the paragraph.

One of the earliest toothbrushes was called the “chew stick.” It was made from a twig about the size of a pencil. One end of the twig was pointed. The other end was chewed until it became soft and brushlike. People brushed with the chewed end. They cleaned between their teeth with the pointed end. New Orleans dentist Levi Spear Parmly (1790–1859) is credited as the inventor of modern dental floss. You might be surprised to learn that people have been using toothbrushes for thousands and thousands of years. The Chinese were the first to make and use toothbrushes with bristles. The handle was carved from bone or bamboo. The bristles were made from animal hair and then attached to one end of the handle. These stiff bristles did a better job cleaning teeth than the chew stick. The first nylon toothbrush was called Doctor West’s Miracle Toothbrush.