

COMPARISONS

To compare two equal things/people we use as adjective + as
eg John is as tall as George

Comparative

-er than

more + adjective than

Superlative

the ... -est

the most + adj

of

in, at

I have ever...

-er than, the -est

One-syllable or two-syllable adjectives ending with -y
(pretty, dirty, friendly), -ow (narrow), -er (clever), -le (gentle),
-ly (holy), -ure (mature).

but: serious more serious the most serious
modern more modern the most modern

more + adj than, the most adj

of
in
at

Adjectives of ¹⁰⁰ and more than two syllables are formed in such a way

eg comfortable - more comfortable the most comfortable

Adjectives formed in both ways

common, polite, handsome, sunny, cruel, stupid
(crueller, cruellest)

Notes

If the adjective ends in one vowel and one consonant double the consonant and add -er

eg thin	thinner	thinnest
fat	fatter	fattest
hot,	hotter	hottest
big		

2) Consonant + y → -ier, -iest

eg happy

pretty

lucky

friendly

Exceptions

good - better - best

bad - worse - the worst

much } - more - most

many }

little - less - least

far } farther - farthest (for distance)
fer } further - furthest (= additional, extra)
eg further details/information

old - older - oldest elder: noun, verb + older

old - elder - eldest (before a noun to talk about family relationships but after a verb only **older, oldest** are possible)

eg My **older/elder** brother

My brother is older than me.

Adverbs.

Adverbs can be formed from adjectives by adding -ly

quick → quickly, slow → slowly

-y → -ily funny → ~~funily~~ funnily, lucky → luckily

-e → -lly beautiful → beautifully

Some adjectives don't change when they become adverbs:

late, straight, hard, fast, high, short, long, far, low, early

ic → ally tragic → tragically

-ly → in a ... manner / way

friendly → in a friendly way

-le → -ly vex → gently → gently

Comparisons.as + adj/adverb + as

John is nice. So is his brother →

John is as nice as his brother

Jack eats very slowly. So does his brother →

Jack eats as slowly as his brother.

not as/so...as.

Alice is popular. Henry isn't as popular
→ Henry is not so/as popular as Alice.

John is taller than Tom →

Tom is not so/as tall as John.

Tom is more handsome than Jim → Jim isn't as/so handsome as Tom

The + comparative . . . the + comparative

eg The earlier you start, the sooner you'll be back.

The less you speak, the fewer mistakes you will make.

The more you eat, the fatter you become.

Can't you tell a funnier joke than that? →

Is that the funniest joke you can tell?

Can't you drive any faster than that? →

Is that the fastest you can drive?

I've never seen such an ugly building →

It's the ugliest building I've ever seen.

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not, slightly

- even, much, far, a bit, ^{a lot, slightly} (4) comparative degree.
eg He looks a lot better today
- any + comparative degrees (in negatives & questions)
eg Can't you work any faster than that?
eg This isn't getting any easier
- by far + superlative
eg This is by far the best restaurant I've ever been to.
- the same... as eg He has the same shirt as I do
- most + adj/adv = very
eg They will be most pleased to see you again.
- twice/three times etc / as + adjective + as
eg Her coat is twice as expensive as mine
- comparative and comparative
eg It was getting darker and darker.
It's getting hotter and hotter