

## COMPARISONS

These are in two categories: Comparative and Superlative.

When comparisons use adjectives and adverbs, the forms of the adjectives and adverbs are either regular or irregular.

**Regular** adjectives and adverbs show comparisons in two ways.

Add an *-er* ending or the *more* or *less* to form the comparative, used for comparing two things. They add either an *-est* ending or the word *most* or *least* to form the superlative, use for comparing three or more things.

POSTIVE	COMPARATIVE	SUPERLATIVE
green	greener	greenest (one-syllable adj. & adv.)
happy	happier	happiest (two-syllable adverbs)
selfish	less selfish	least selfish
beautiful	more beautiful	most beautiful

Use *-er* or *-est* endings or *more* and *most* for two-syllable adjectives. The only way to know which forms are correct is to check the dictionary. The forms vary greatly.

Use *more* and *most* for adverbs with two or more syllables: for example, *easily*, *more easily*, *most easily*.

Use *more* and *most* for adverbs and adjectives of three or more syllables: *protective*, *more protective*, *most protective*.

**Alert:** Never use *more* or *most* together with *-er* and *-est* ending. For example, *more louder* and *most happiest* are incorrect forms.

Similar to the word *good*, **irregular** adjective and verb comparative and superlative forms bear little resemblance to the original word.

**POSTIVE COMPARATIVE SUPERLATIVE**

bad	worse	worst
badly	worse	worst
many	more	most
much	more	most
some	more	most
little	less	least

Alert: Do not use *less* and *fewer* interchangeably. Use *less* when referring to NONCOUNT NOUNS and *fewer* when referring to numbers and COUNT NOUNS. They consumed ***fewer calories*** by using ***less sugar***.

Fill in the Blank: Comparative and Superlative

1. English comes \_\_\_\_\_ to some as compared to others. (easy)
2. Krys was the \_\_\_\_\_ girl in the world when she got her puppy. (happy)
3. *Schindler's List* was the \_\_\_\_\_ movie I have ever seen. (sad)
4. Greece is the \_\_\_\_\_ country I have ever visited. (beautiful)
5. Children behave \_\_\_\_\_ at school than they do in public. (bad)
6. This year \_\_\_\_\_ students dropped out than last year. (few)

7. \_\_\_\_\_ of my time at work is spent doing paperwork.  
(much)
8. Experiencing failure is the \_\_\_\_\_ feeling I have  
ever had. (bad)
9. Connie is the \_\_\_\_\_ person I know. (selfish)
10. Kids nowadays are \_\_\_\_\_ fooled than kids from  
earlier decades. (easy)

Answer Key: Comparative and Superlative

1. more easily
2. happiest
3. saddest
4. most beautiful
5. worse
6. fewer
7. Much
8. worst
9. least selfish
10. more easily