

SUPERLATIVE FORMS

We use the superlative forms when making comparisons between more than two people, places or objects, but here we also have to follow some rules. When we use one syllable adjectives or adverbs in the superlative, *the* precedes the adjective (or adverb) and *est* is added to its ending. If the adjective ends in a consonant preceded by a single vowel, the final consonant is duplicated. *Note:* this rule also applies to colors, which are adjectives.

Adjective	Comparative form	Superlative form
Big	Bigger than	The biggest
Thin	Thinner than	The thinnest
Fast	Faster than	The fastest

Examples:

New York is **bigger than** Miami.
Yes, but Los Angeles is **the biggest** city in the US.

I am **thinner than** my brother.
But my nephew is **the thinnest** in the family.

A crow flies **faster than** a pigeon.
Yes, but eagles fly **the fastest**.

When forming superlatives using *bi-syllabic* adjectives that end in *y*, the *y* is changed into *iest*.

Adjective	Comparative form	Superlative form
Crazy	Crazier than	The craziest
Funny	Funnier than	The funniest
Pretty	Prettier than	The prettiest

Examples:

Armand is crazy. Frank is **crazier than** Armand.
But Hector is **the craziest** of all of them.

Maria is pretty. Marcela is **prettier than** Maria. But
Gabriela is **the prettiest**.

Bugs Bunny is funny. *The Simpsons* is **funnier than** *Bugs bunny*.
But *Alf* is **the funniest** series on TV.

When forming superlatives using *tri-syllabic* adjectives, *bi-syllabic* adjectives not ending in *y* or adverbs ending in *ly*, the *most* precedes the adjective or adverb.

Adjective or Adverb	Comparative form	Superlative form
Gracefully	More gracefully than	The most gracefully
Expensive	More expensive than	The most expensive
Gentle	More gentle than	The most gentle

Examples:

Helen dances gracefully. Arlene dances more gracefully than Helen.
But Regina dances the most gracefully.

Ford is an expensive car. A Lexus is more expensive than a Ford.
But Rolls Royce is the most expensive car. Mary's kitten is gentle.
Her sister's horse is more gentle.
But the old dog is the most gentle.

Irregular Forms

Adjective	Comparative Form	Superlative Form
good	better than	the best
bad	worse than	the worst
far	farther than	the farthest
little	less than	the least
few	fewer than	the fewest
much	more than	the most
many	more than	the most



Use the correct superlative form of the adjective or “**most**” plus the adjective to fill in the blanks.

1. Alaska is the _____ state in the United States. (large)
2. Russia is the _____ country in the world. (big)
3. Mount Everest is the _____ mountain in the world. (high)
4. She has the _____ teeth I've ever seen. (white)
5. Do you know which is the _____ growing economy in the world. (fast)
6. Which is the _____ country in the world? (developed)
7. This store has the _____ prices in town. (low)
8. For many people, ground transportation is the _____ way to travel. (safe)
9. The _____ subject that I studied in school was History. (easy)
10. Which is the _____ country in South America? (small)
11. Tino is the _____ student in my class. (smart)
12. For me, mathematics was the _____ subject in school. (difficult)
13. This gold watch is the _____ item in the jewelry store. (expensive)
14. My brother John is the _____ person in my family. (talented)
15. Among cotton, leather, and paper, cotton is the _____ material. (soft)
16. New York probably has the _____ number of immigrants in all the states. (large)
17. Which are the five _____ countries in the world? (developed)
18. Where is the _____ place on earth? (cold)
19. The Mississippi River is the _____ river in the United States. (long)

20. My uncle Ted is the _____ person in my family. (funny)
21. What is the _____ thing you ever did? (complicated)
22. The _____ point on earth in the Pacific Ocean. (deep)
23. My grandfather is the _____ person in my family. (old)
24. I want to stay in the _____ hotel in town. (good)
25. This is the _____ movie I've ever seen. (bad)
26. This is the _____ solution to the problem. (good)
27. Here comes the _____ part of the story. (bad)
28. What is the _____ movie you've ever seen? (bad)
29. Your dog is the _____ dog in the neighborhood. (mean)
30. What was the _____ thing that ever happened to you? (bad)
31. That was the _____ thing I have ever heard. (dumb)
32. Which is the _____ country in the European Union? (big)
33. Excuse me! What is the _____ way to get to the airport? (quick)
34. What is the most _____ thing you've ever done? (exciting)
35. What is the _____ day of the year? (short)
36. Which do you think is the _____ city in the world? New York, Tokyo, Moscow, or London? (expensive)
37. Where the _____ building in the world located? (tall)
38. Which country has the _____ means of transportation? (modern)
39. What was the _____ day of your life? (important)
40. New York is one of the _____ cities in the world. (exciting)