

Degrees of Comparison



What is a Comparative Adjective?

A **comparative adjective** is used to compare one person, action, thing or state to another. It adds the **suffix -er** to the original adjective.

e.g. **brighter**

'bright' is the original adjective.

'-er' is the suffix.

It is comparing **two things** only.
E.g. Sam's torch is brighter than John's torch.



Adding -er

The suffix **-er** is added to the end of the original adjective to show that it is being compared to one other person, action, thing or state.

Sometimes, the root adjective spelling does not change.

e.g. **warm**

The weather is **warmer** today than yesterday.

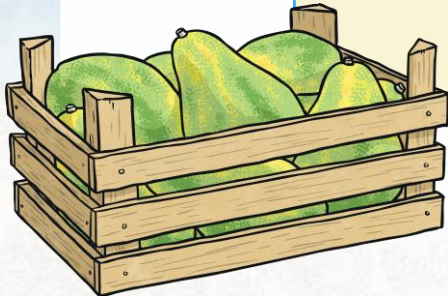
Other times, the **root adjective** spelling changes, as in these examples:

e.g. **happy**

The boy is **happier** than the girl.

e.g. **big**

My car is **bigger** than yours.



Using Comparative Adjectives

Can you add the suffix '-er' to these adjectives, to turn them into comparative adjectives and then put them in a sentence?

Can you write your sentences down? Take care with your spellings.

e.g. **small**

The mouse was **smaller** than the elephant.



| | | |
|-------|-------|--------|
| hot | long | wet |
| shiny | light | bright |

(Click to reveal the answer.)

What Is a Superlative Adjective?

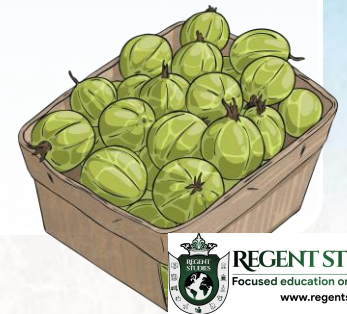
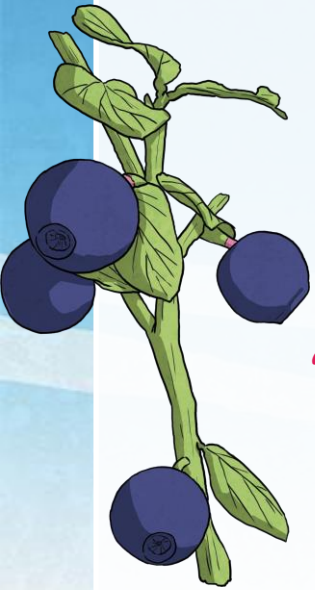
A **superlative adjective** is used to compare one person, action, thing or state to **all others** in the same group. It adds the **suffix - est** to the original adjective.

e.g. **quietest**

'quiet' is the original adjective.

'-est' is the suffix.

It is comparing **more than two things** only.
E.g. Aisha is the quietest in the class.



Adding -est

The suffix **-est** is added to the end of the original adjective to show that it is being compared to two or more people, actions, things or states.

Sometimes, the **root adjective** spelling does not change.

e.g. **quick**

The girl is the **quickest** of them all.

Other times, the **root adjective** spelling changes, as in these examples:

e.g. **juicy**

The orange is the **juiciest** of the fruits.

e.g. **hot**

Leeds was the **hottest** city on Wednesday.



Using Superlative Adjectives

Can you add '-est' to these adjectives, to turn them into superlative adjectives and then put them in a sentence?

Can you write your sentences down? Take care with your spellings.

e.g. cold

It was the **cold**est day in January so far.



| | | |
|-------|-------|------|
| thin | short | dry |
| funny | dark | dull |

(Click to reveal the answer.)



