

GRAMMAR SUPPLEMENT

SUPERLATIVE FORMS OF ADJECTIVES

1.1 USE

a) We use superlative adjectives to show change:

Pizza from this restaurant is certainly **the best**, but it's also **the most expensive**.

- The new commerce tower is **the tallest** building in the city now.

- India has become **the biggest** country by population.

b) When we compare three or more things:

- Carla is older than Helen, but Carolina is **the oldest**.

- Rancagua is much bigger than Ovalle, but Santiago is **the biggest** city in Chile.

- Marcos is a better player than me, but Juan is **the best player** of all.

- Fiction books are more interesting than textbooks for me. Specifically, I think fantasy books are **the best**.

c) When we show the extreme:

- A woman in Japan is **the oldest person** in the world.

- Angela McIntyre has the world record for **the biggest** hamburger in the world.

- Asia is **the largest** continent on our planet.

1.2 FORM

a) Add **-est** to 1-syllable adjectives:

small > smaller > smallest

slow > slower > slowest

nice > nicer > nicest

fast > faster > fastest

If a 1-syllable adjective ends in 1 vowel + 1 consonant, **double** the last consonant:

big > bigger > biggest

slim > slimmer > slimmest

sad > sadder > saddest

wet > wetter > wettest

b) Add **-iest** to 2-syllable adjectives ending in **-y**:

happy > happier > happiest

easy > easier > easiest

rainy > rainier > rainiest

c) Use the word **most** if the adjective is **multi-syllabic**:

boring > more boring > most boring

expensive > more expensive > most expensive

beautiful > more beautiful > most beautiful

interesting > more interesting > most interesting

d) **Irregular comparatives/superlatives**:

good > better > best

bad > worse > worst

far > further / farther > furthest / farthest

e) Use the definite article “the.”

- This is **the worst** option.

- Your plan is **the most interesting**.

- What's **the best** class?

1.3 Practice Exercise A

Write the superlative form of the adjective in the space in the chart.

BASE FORM	SUPERLATIVE FORM
1. short	
2. enthusiastic	
3. peaceful	
4. angry	
5. responsible	
6. good	
7. bad	
8. red	

1.4 Practice Exercise B

Complete the space with the superlative form of the adjective in parentheses.

1. Dolphins are animals of all. (intelligent)
2. Mr. Rockford is man in our town. (old)
3. Russia is country by land area. (large)
4. "Predator vs Alien" is movie ever made. (exciting)
5. 5 pm is time in the mall. (busy)
6. Alicia is student in this program. (ambitious)

1.5 Practice Exercise C

Put the words/phrases in order to create correct sentences.

1. think / chihuahuas / I / the / dog / smallest / are
.....
2. in / lowest / North America / point / the / is / Death Valley
.....
3. this / hardest / I've / project / thing / done / the / is
.....
4. is / Metro system / this line / longest / the / in / the
.....
5. highest / is / in / Aconcagua / South America / the / mountain

.....

1.6 Practice Exercise D

Use the adjectives below to complete the spaces in the sentences. Put the adjectives into the superlative form.

delicious controversial hot important expensive long big high
--

1. Puerto Montt is city in its region.
2. Summer is season of the year in Chile.
3. That's meal I've had in a long time.
4. You bought shoes in the shop.
5. This is probably topic of these times.
6. In the Southern Hemisphere, day of the year is in December.
7. Ms. Howard's son usually gets scores on tests in the class.
8. I think Elena is member of our team.

1.7 Practice Exercise E

Write the opposite superlative adjective in the box

1. the most difficult	
2. the worst	
3. the cheapest	
4. the saddest	
5. the hottest	
6. the nearest	
7. the shortest	
8. the oldest	
9. the most interesting	
10. the slowest	

ANSWER KEY

Practice Exercise A

Write the superlative form of the adjective in the space in the chart.

BASE FORM	SUPERLATIVE FORM
1. short	shortest
2. enthusiastic	most enthusiastic
3. peaceful	most peaceful
4. angry	angriest
5. responsible	most responsible
6. good	best
7. bad	worst
8. red	reddest

Practice Exercise B

Complete the space with the superlative form of the adjective in parentheses.

1. Dolphins are **the most intelligent** animals of all. (intelligent)
2. Mr. Rockford is **the oldest** man in our town. (old)
3. Russia is **the largest** country by land area. (large)
4. "Predator vs Alien" is **the most exciting** movie ever made. (exciting)
5. 5 pm is **the busiest** time in the mall. (busy)
6. Alicia is **the most ambitious** student in this program. (ambitious)

Practice Exercise C

Put the words/phrases in order to create correct sentences.

1. think / chihuahuas / I / the / dog / smallest / are

I think chihuahuas are the smallest dog.

2. in / lowest / North America / point / the / is / Death Valley

Death Valley is the lowest point in North America.

3. this / hardest / I've / project / thing / done / the / is

This project is the hardest thing I've ever done.

4. is / Metro system / this line / longest / the / in / the

This line is the longest in the Metro system.

5. highest / is / in / Aconcagua / South America / the / mountain

Aconcagua is the highest mountain in South America.

Practice Exercise D

Use the adjectives below to complete the spaces in the sentences. Put the adjectives into the superlative form.

delicious controversial hot important expensive long big high
--

1. Puerto Montt is **the biggest** city in its region.
2. Summer is **the hottest** season of the year in Chile.
3. That's **the most delicious** meal I've had in a long time.
4. You bought **the most expensive** shoes in the shop.
5. This is probably **the most controversial** topic of these times.
6. In the Southern Hemisphere, **the longest** day of the year is in December.
7. Ms. Howard's son usually gets **the highest** scores on tests in the class.
8. I think Elena is **the most important** member of our team.

Practice Exercise E

Write the opposite superlative adjective in the box

1. the most difficult	the easiest
2. the worst	the best
3. the cheapest	the most expensive
4. the saddest	the happiest
5. the hottest	the coldest
6. the nearest	the farthest/furthest
7. the shortest	the longest

8. the oldest	the youngest or the newest
9. the most interesting	the most boring
10. the slowest	the fastest