

Adapted from: **Elementary Language Practice** by Michael Vince

Explanations

Meaning of comparatives and superlatives

Comparatives compare two things.

She is a faster runner than John.

Superlatives compare one thing in a group with all the other things in that group.

She is the fastest runner in the world.

Superlative adjectives

Add *-est* to the adjective and put *the* before the noun.

This is the longest river in our country.

I am the greatest!

<i>long</i>	-----	<i>longest</i>
<i>big</i>	-----	<i>biggest</i>
<i>dry</i>	-----	<i>driest</i>

Adjectives with two or more syllables use *most*.

modern ----- *most modern*

interesting ----- *most interesting*

Exceptions

Adjectives ending in consonant + **y**

happy = *happiest*

Some adjectives with two syllables can be formed in either way.

common = *commonest* or *most common*

Irregular superlatives

<i>good</i>	=	<i>best</i>
<i>bad</i>	=	<i>worst</i>
<i>little</i>	=	<i>least</i>
<i>old</i>	=	<i>eldest</i> (for family)