


Comparatives and superlatives


COMPARATIVES			
	MAJORITY	MINORITY	EQUALITY
Adjectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subj. + verb + adj. (1-syll. or 2-syll. -y) + -er (+ than + object) > Apple computers are faster than the others. Subj. + verb + more + adj (≥ 2 syll.) (+ than + object) > This equipment is more modern than the one we had. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subj. + verb + less + adj. (+ than + object) > Our model no. 23 is less cheap than model no. 25. > Dacia cars are less luxurious than Mercedes cars. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subj. + verb + as + adj. (+ as + object) > Visual sensors are as efficient as tactile ones. Subj. + neg. verb + as/so + adj. (+ as + object) > The technicians are not as/so precise as they should.
!!!	Adj. -e → + -r Adj. -consonant + -y → -i + -er Irregular comparatives: <i>good</i> → <i>better</i> , <i>bad</i> → <i>worse</i> , <i>old</i> → <i>older/elder</i> , <i>far</i> → <i>farther/further</i>		
Adverbs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subj. + verb + more + adv. (+ than + object) > We are now working more efficiently than last month. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subj. + verb + less + adv. (+ than + object) > Thankfully, the complaints are coming in less frequently. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subj. + verb + as + adv. (+ as + object) > This new piece of machinery works just as slowly.
!!!	If the adverb only has one syllable → + -er		
Nouns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subj. + verb + more + count./uncount. noun (+ than + object) > The local factory is producing more pollution than last year. > According to the graphs we have more satisfied customers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subj. + verb + less + uncount. noun (+ than + object) > There is less air pollution in this season. Subj. + verb + fewer + count. noun (+ than + object) > Fewer controls were done on our goods at the factory. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subj. + verb + as much + uncount. noun (+ as + object) > We didn't make as much money as we had hoped. Subj. + verb + as many + count. noun (+ as + object) > We can't produce as many cars as they are doing.
Verbs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subj. + verb + more (+ than + object) > Our workers work more than two years ago. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subj. + verb + less (+ than + object) > They've earned less this last quarter. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subj. + verb + as much (+ as + object) > BMW invests as much as our company in CAD design.

RELATIVE SUPERLATIVE	
MAJORITY	MINORITY
Adjectives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subj. + verb + the + adj. (1-syll. or 2-syll. -y) + -est (+ in/of + object) > The automation process is the simplest to use. Subj. + verb + the + most + adj (≥ 2 syll.) (+ in/of + object) > Mercedes is considered the most popular of brands. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Subj. + verb + the + least + adj. (+ in/of + object) > FIAT is one of the least known brands for luxury cars.
!!! Adj. -e → + -st Adj. -consonant + -y → -ie + -st Irregular comparatives: <i>good</i> → <i>best</i> , <i>bad</i> → <i>worst</i> , <i>old</i> → <i>oldest/eldest</i> , <i>far</i> → <i>farthest/furthest</i>	


ABSOLUTE SUPERLATIVE	
Adjectives very / really + gradable adjective > This company is very/really advantageous for raw materials.	absolutely / really + ungradable adjective > Last year's biogas production was absolutely/really horrible .

- 18**  Complete the table with the comparative and superlative forms of the adjectives/adverbs.


Adjective/ Adverb	Comparative	Superlative
➤ high	higher	the highest
1. loud		
2. large		
3. thin		
4. heavy		
5. cheap		
6. quietly		
7. carefully		
8. dependent		
9. good/well		
10. bad		

- 19**  Write sentences with comparatives using the clues given: + majority, = equality, – minority.

- Robotic arms are conventional machine tools. (+ versatile)
- Sensors are car components mechanical devices. (= important)
- Robots are human beings. (+ efficient and precise)
- Robots are human beings. (– intelligent)
- A diesel engine is a gasoline engine. (+ bulky)
- A diesel engine is not a gasoline engine. (= reactive)
- Sensors are becoming in the past. (+ accurate, cheap)
- Petrol engines use fuel diesel engines. (– efficiently)
- Digital devices process data analogue devices. (+ fast)
- Petrol engines don't support a pressure diesel engines do. (= high)

- 20**  Choose the correct option for each sentence.

- He worked *efficiently* / *more efficiently* / *the most efficiently* than I did.
- Prevention is *good* / *better* / *the best* than cure.
- This car may be *as expensive as* / *the most expensive* / *more expensive* car in the shop.
- These sensors are not *as sensitive* / *more sensitive* / *like sensitive* as those ones.
- The piston moves *less smoothly* / *the least smoothly* / *more smoothly* than before, luckily.
- This factory produces *the most powerful* / *more powerful* / *the less powerful* engines in Italy.
- This car's engine works in a *more eco-friendly* / *eco-friendlier* / *the eco-friendliest* way *than* / *of* / *in* the previous ones.
- The exhaust fumes of petrol engines are *more polluting* / *less polluting* / *as polluting* than the ones emitted by diesel engines.

- 21**  Rewrite the sentences using the words given, without changing the meaning.

- Diesel engines pollute more than petrol ones (as) → Gasoline engines do not as pollute as much as diesel ones.
- I've never seen such a fast car. (this)
 - Tom's bike is heavier than mine. (not)
 - In this race Ferrari is the fastest car of all. (than)
 - He is a terrible driver. I don't know anyone worse than him. (the)
 - Human beings get more tired and over-stressed than robots. (so)
 - Pollution rate has never been so high. (this)

