Equative, Comparative & Superlative Adjectives

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Quick and Handy Grammar Review

DESCRIPTIVE, COMPARATIVE, SUPERLATIVE, AND EQUATIVE FORMS

Adjectives have four forms.

A. Descriptive Form

The *descriptive* form is used to describe one noun or pronoun. Remember that adjectives are placed either immediately before the noun or after a form of the verb to be.

- The *excited* travellers visited a *beautiful* park.
- The *suntanned* lifeguard protected the *young* swimmers.
- The *Australian* woman was *tall* and *slender*.
- It is *dangerous* to climb a mountain in the winter.

B. Comparative Form

The *comparative* form is used to compare two nouns or pronouns.

For one-syllable adjectives, add *-er*. For two-syllable adjectives that end in *y*, change the *y* to *i* and add *-er*: happy / happier.

- Hawaii is *hotter* than Alaska.
- I got *wetter* than you because I forgot my umbrella.

For one-syllable adjectives that end in consonant-vowel-consonant (CVC), double the consonant and add *-er*: big / bigger.

- You are *braver* than me.
- The sun is *larger* than the moon.

For adjectives that end in *e*, just add *-r* to form the comparative: fine / finer.

- Helene is *more optimistic* than Nancy.
- His artwork is *more beautiful* than hers.

For longer adjectives (two syllables or more), use *more* + adjective.

Adjectives are followed by *than* in the comparative form.
Quick and Handy Grammar Review cont.

C. Superlative Form

The superlative form of the adjective is used to compare at least three nouns or pronouns.

For one-syllable adjectives, add the + -est. For two-syllable adjectives that end in y, change the y to i and add -est: happy / happiest.

For longer adjectives (more than two syllables), use the + most + adjective.

In the superlative form, adjectives are often followed by in.

D. Equative and Non-Equative Form

The equative and non-equative form are used to express equality or inequality.

For any length of adjective, use as + adjective + as or not as + adjective + as to create this form.

• Ruta is the youngest engineer in the firm.
• That pizza is the tastiest in town.
• Giovanna is the most intelligent student in the class.
• Your recliner is the most comfortable seat in your house.
• Martin is as fast as Juan.
• Jean-Claude is as capable as his father.
• Reba is not as tall as Angela.
• Abu Dhabi is not as crowded as Seoul.
### Quick and Handy Grammar Review cont.

#### E. Irregular Forms

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Good</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Irregular Forms</strong></td>
<td><strong>Examples</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Descriptive</td>
<td>good</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comparative</td>
<td>better than</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Superlative</td>
<td>the best</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equative</td>
<td>as good as</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Equative</td>
<td>not as good as</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bad</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Irregular Forms</strong></td>
<td><strong>Examples</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Descriptive</td>
<td>bad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comparative</td>
<td>worse than</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Superlative</td>
<td>the worst</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equative</td>
<td>as bad as</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Equative</td>
<td>not as bad as</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Equative, Comparative & Superlative Adjectives**

***Grammar Practice Worksheets***

**Quick and Handy Grammar Review cont.**

**E. Irregular Forms cont.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Many</strong> (used with count nouns)</th>
<th><strong>Irregular Forms</strong></th>
<th><strong>Examples</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Descriptive</td>
<td>many</td>
<td>There are many beaches on the Riviera.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comparative</td>
<td>more than</td>
<td>Istanbul has more mosquitoes than Baghdad.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Superlative</td>
<td>the most</td>
<td>Seattle has the most coffee shops in America.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equative</td>
<td>as many as</td>
<td>New York has as many pizza places as Naples.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Equative</td>
<td>not as many as</td>
<td>There are not as many chairs in Room 316 as in Room 321.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Much** (used with non-count nouns)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Irregular Forms</strong></th>
<th><strong>Examples</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Descriptive</td>
<td>Henry doesn't drink much tea.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comparative</td>
<td>Barbara drinks more coffee than Bruce.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Superlative</td>
<td>Little Billy drinks the most milk in the family.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equative</td>
<td>Yelma uses as much sugar as Marta.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Equative</td>
<td>I don’t use as much salt as I used to.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Quick and Handy Grammar Review cont.

**E. Irregular Forms cont.**

### Few (used with count nouns)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Irregular Forms</th>
<th>Examples</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Descriptive</td>
<td>There are <strong>few</strong> people in that restaurant.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comparative</td>
<td>Xavier has <strong>fewer</strong> friends than Tanya.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Superlative</td>
<td>Houston has <strong>the fewest</strong> Chinese restaurants of any southern city.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equative</td>
<td>There are <strong>as few</strong> parks in Pompeii <strong>as</strong> in Herculaneum.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Equative</td>
<td>There are <strong>not as few</strong> holes in the street <strong>as</strong> there used to be.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Little (used with non-count nouns)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Irregular Forms</th>
<th>Examples</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Descriptive</td>
<td>John drinks <strong>little</strong> beer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Comparative</td>
<td>Ashley eats <strong>less than</strong> her brother Seth.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Superlative</td>
<td>Terrance drinks <strong>the least</strong> coffee in the office.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equative</td>
<td>She uses <strong>as little</strong> sugar <strong>as</strong> she can.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Equative</td>
<td>Bob does not eat <strong>as little as</strong> he did five years ago.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Exercise 1

DESCRIPTIVE ADJECTIVES

Complete each sentence with an appropriate adjective.

1. Angela gets As on all her examinations. She is very ________________ .
2. When Carl walks into the room, everyone stares at him because he is very ________________ .
3. Mario weighs 359 pounds (163 kilograms). He is really ________________ .
4. Mario’s 21-year-old sister weighs 89 pounds (40 kilograms). She is ________________ .
5. Everyone falls asleep in Professor Balongi’s class because he is so ________________ .
6. Paris is the number one tourist city in the world because it is so ________________ .
7. Students are afraid of coming late to Professor Jackson’s class because she is very ________________ .
8. I hate people who are ________________ . They never open their wallets.
9. My sister is incredibly ________________ . She shares with everybody.
10. Mark is very ________________ . He always comes on time.
11. Maria is a(n) ________________ student. She gets the best grades in the class.
12. Helga’s car is ________________ . She just bought it last week.
14. Those shoes are so ________________ that I cannot afford them.
15. Go ahead! Buy another pretzel. It is so ________________ . It only costs 50 cents.
16. Ronaldo is a(n) ________________ soccer player—not so good and not so bad.
17. That package is really ________________ . It probably weighs 45 kilograms.
18. Your couch is very ________________ . I love to sit on it.
19. Nancy’s living room is so ________________ that it looks like a soccer field.
20. It is very ________________ in here. Please turn on the light.
21. The lion is a(n) ________________ animal. It lives in Tanzania.
22. My mother is really ________________ . Nothing bothers her.
23. My father gets ________________ when we do not listen to him.
24. If you want to get a raise, you must be a(n) ________________ worker.
25. Carlita must be ________________ . She never misses class.
Exercise 2

COMPARATIVE ADJECTIVES

Write the appropriate comparative adjectives in the blanks.

1. Bill is 55 years old. Bob is 51 years old.
   Bill is ________________ Bob.
   Bob is ________________ Bill.

2. The black boots cost $125. The brown boots cost $99.
   The black boots are ________________ the brown boots.
   The brown boots are ________________ the black boots.

3. Sheila is 5’6" (171 cm) tall. Marsha is 5’1” (155 cm).
   Sheila is ________________ Marsha.
   Marsha is ________________ Sheila.

   *The Second Stain* is ________________ *The Nanny Trap*.
   *The Nanny Trap* is ________________ *The Second Stain*.

5. The August weather in Washington, DC, is hot. The August weather in Quebec is cool.
   The August weather in Washington, DC, is ________________ Quebec.
   The August weather in Quebec is ________________ in Washington, DC.

6. Brad Pitt is a famous actor. Harvey Klinger is an unknown actor.
   Brad Pitt is ________________ Harvey Klinger.
   Harvey Klinger is ________________ Brad Pitt.

7. The Champs Elysees in Paris is a wide street. Trinity Street in Brooklyn is narrow.
   The Champs Elysees is ________________ Trinity Street.
   Trinity Street is ________________ the Champs Elysees.

8. Mount Everest is 8,848 metres high. K2 is 8,611 metres high.
   Mount Everest is ________________ K2.
   K2 is ________________ Everest.
**Exercise 3**

**COMPARATIVE ADJECTIVES**

Write the appropriate comparative adjective in each blank.

1. Emma's house is __________________ than Susan's. (big)

2. This rose is __________________ than that daisy. (beautiful)

3. *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* is __________________ than *Brokeback Mountain*. (interesting)

4. People who don't smoke have __________________ lives than those who do smoke. (long)

5. The tiger is __________________ than the elephant. (dangerous)

6. A vacation on the beach is __________________ than a vacation in a big city. (relaxing)

7. Gucci shoes are __________________ than Uggs. (expensive)

8. Donald Trump is __________________ than Michael Jordan. (rich)

9. The weather in Qatar is __________________ than in Beijing. (hot)

10. Senator Hudson is __________________ than Senator Huxley. (conservative)
**Exercise 4**

**SUPERLATIVE ADJECTIVES**

Unscramble the sentences below. Use superlative adjectives.

1. My dog / fast / animal / state
   
   *My dog is the fastest animal in the state.*

2. Henrietta / excellent / student / class

3. Boots / expensive / store

4. August / humid / month / year

5. Babbo / expensive / restaurant / city

6. Coldplay / wonderful / band / world

7. Buffalo / cold / city / country

8. Isabella / beautiful / girl / contest

9. Trevor / talented / cook / class

10. The Amazon / deep / river / South America
Exercise 5

EQUATIVE AND NON-EQUATIVE ADJECTIVES

Write the appropriate equative or non-equative adjective in each blank.

1. Bob is 6'0" (183 cm). Mary is 6'0" (183 cm). Bob is ____________________________ Mary.
2. Italy has excellent wines. France has excellent wines.  
   Italy’s wines are ____________________________ French wines.
3. Walter is very handsome. Irving is also very handsome.  
   Walter is ____________________________ Irving.
4. The maple tree is 21 metres high. The sycamore tree is also 21 metres high.  
   The maple tree is ____________________________ the sycamore.
5. The cobra snake in the zoo is eight metres long. The viper snake is six metres long.  
   The viper is ____________________________ the cobra.
6. Barbara gets As on every history test. James gets Cs on most history tests.  
   James is ____________________________ as Barbara in history class.
7. The average temperature in Miami is 23ºC. The average temperature in Bankok is 29ºC.  
   Miami is ____________________________ Bankok.
8. Boston is 325 kilometres from New York. Washington is also 325 kilometres from New York.  
   Boston is ____________________________ Washington from New York.
   The coffee in the Berkshire Diner is ____________________________ the coffee in Sal's Inn.
10. It is very windy in Chicago. It is also very windy in San Francisco.  
    It is ____________________________ in Chicago as in San Francisco.
Exercise 6

IRREGULAR ADJECTIVES

Fill in the missing words in the following sentences. Use the comparative form of the words in the word list.

1. Betty is an excellent cook. Brian is a fair cook.
   Betty is a ___________________________ cook ________ Brian.
   Brian is a ___________________________ cook ________ Betty.

2. Won Bo is a very good speaker. Noriko is not a very good speaker.
   Won Bo is a ___________________________ speaker ________ Noriko.
   Noriko is a ___________________________ speaker ________ Won Bo.

   Usha makes ___________________________ cookies ________ Numia.
   Numia makes ___________________________ cookies ________ Usha.

4. Lee drinks four cups of tea a day. Won Eun drinks two cups of tea a day.
   Lee drinks ___________________________ tea ________ Young Eun.
   Young Eun drinks ___________________________ tea ________ Lee.

5. Roberto has three close friends. Daisy has five close friends.
   Roberto has ___________________________ close friends ________ Daisy.
   Daisy has ___________________________ close friends ________ Roberto.

Word List:
- good
- bad
- much
- many
- more
- less
- little
- few
Exercise 7

IRREGULAR ADJECTIVES

Fill in the missing words in the following sentences.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Words</th>
<th>Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• good</td>
<td>• Paolo scored 2 goals.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• better</td>
<td>• Robinho scored 6 goals.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• the best</td>
<td>• Kaka scored 11 goals.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Paolo is a __________ soccer player.
2. Robinho is a __________ soccer player __________ Paolo.
3. Kaka is __________ player in the league.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Words</th>
<th>Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• bad</td>
<td>• Siena has 2 points.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• worse</td>
<td>• Empoli has 4 points.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• the worst</td>
<td>• Venezia has 8 points.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. Siena is __________ team in the league with only 2 points.
5. Empoli is also a __________ team.
6. Empoli is a __________ team than Venezia.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Words</th>
<th>Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• more</td>
<td>• Maria likes 2 teaspoons of sugar.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• less</td>
<td>• Sarah likes 3 teaspoons of sugar.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• a little</td>
<td>• Stella likes 1 teaspoon of sugar.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

7. Stella puts __________ sugar in her coffee.
8. Sarah adds __________ sugar in her coffee __________ Maria.
9. Maria puts __________ sugar in her coffee __________ Sarah.
10. Stella puts __________ amount of sugar in her coffee.
11. Sarah puts __________ amount of sugar in her coffee.
12. Maria adds __________ sugar __________ Stella.
### Exercise 7 cont.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Words</th>
<th>Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| • more  
• the most  
• fewer  
• the least | • Daniela has 12 pairs of shoes.  
• Gina has 18 pairs of shoes.  
• Kelly has 9 pairs of shoes. |

13. Gina has ____________ pairs of shoes.
14. Gina has ____________ shoes ____________ Kelly.
15. Kelly has ____________ pairs of shoes.
16. Daniela has ____________ pairs of shoes ____________ Gina.
17. Daniela has ____________ pairs of shoes ____________ Kelly.
18. Kelly has ____________ pairs of shoes ____________ Daniela.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Words</th>
<th>Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| • the most  
• the fewest  
• more  
• fewer | • China has 1.3 billion people.  
• India has 1.2 billion people.  
• The US has 300 million people. |

19. China has ____________ people.
20. India has ____________ people ____________ the US.
21. India has ____________ people ____________ China.
22. China has ____________ people in the world.
23. The US has ____________ people of the three countries.
24. The US has ____________ people ____________ China or India.
Exercise 8

COMPARISON CHART I

A. Chart

Analyze the following chart comparing three people.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Height</th>
<th>Energy</th>
<th>Grades</th>
<th>Personality</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Isabella</td>
<td>36 years old</td>
<td>5'6&quot; (171 cm)</td>
<td>very energetic</td>
<td>gets As</td>
<td>outgoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rose</td>
<td>36 years old</td>
<td>5'6&quot; (171 cm)</td>
<td>energetic</td>
<td>gets Cs</td>
<td>shy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greta</td>
<td>41 years old</td>
<td>5'4&quot; (165 cm)</td>
<td>lazy</td>
<td>gets Bs</td>
<td>very shy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

B. Descriptive Form

Write three sentences using the *descriptive* form.
*(be + adjective or adjective + noun)*

1. 
2. 
3. 

C. Comparative Form

Write three sentences using the *comparative* form.
*(-er + than or more + adjective + than)*

1. 
2. 
3. 
Exercise 8 cont.

D. Superlative Form

Write three sentences using the superlative form.
(the + -est or the most + adjective)

1. ____________________________
   ____________________________

2. ____________________________
   ____________________________

3. ____________________________
   ____________________________

E. Equative / Non-Equative Form

Write three sentences using the equative or non-equative form.
(as + adjective + as or not as + adjective + as)

1. ____________________________
   ____________________________

2. ____________________________
   ____________________________

3. ____________________________
   ____________________________
### Exercise 9

#### COMPARISON CHART II

**A. Chart**

Analyze the following chart comparing three US states.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Population</th>
<th>Density</th>
<th>Size</th>
<th>Beaches</th>
<th>Lakes</th>
<th>Mountains</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>New Jersey</td>
<td>9,000,000</td>
<td>crowded</td>
<td>small</td>
<td>many</td>
<td>few</td>
<td>none</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wyoming</td>
<td>500,000</td>
<td>not crowded</td>
<td>very large</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>many</td>
<td>high</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Hampshire</td>
<td>800,000</td>
<td>not crowded</td>
<td>small</td>
<td>some</td>
<td>many</td>
<td>low</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**B. Descriptive Form**

Write three sentences using the *descriptive* form.

*(be + adjective or adjective + noun)*

1. 
2. 
3. 

**C. Comparative Form**

Write three sentences using the *comparative* form.

*(-er + than, or more + adjective + than)*

1. 
2. 
3. 
Exercise 9 cont.

D. Superlative Form

Write three sentences using the superlative form.
(the + -est or the most + adjective)

1. 

2. 

3. 

E. Equative / Non-Equative Form

Write three sentences using the equative or non-equative form.
(as + adjective + as or not as + adjective + as)

1. 

2. 

3. 

Equative, Comparative & Superlative Adjectives
Grammar Practice Worksheets

Answer Key

Exercise 1
Answers may vary.
1. intelligent
2. handsome
3. fat
4. skinny
5. boring
6. beautiful
7. strict
8. cheap
9. generous
10. punctual
11. excellent
12. new
13. old
14. expensive
15. cheap
16. mediocre
17. heavy
18. comfortable
19. big
20. dark
21. wild
22. calm
23. angry
24. diligent
25. sick

Exercise 2
1. older than, younger than
2. more expensive than, less expensive than
3. taller than, shorter than
4. more interesting than, less interesting than
5. hotter than, cooler than
6. more famous than, less famous than
7. wider than, narrower than
8. higher than, lower than

Exercise 3
1. bigger
2. more beautiful
3. more interesting
4. longer
5. more dangerous
6. more relaxing
7. more expensive
8. richer
9. hotter
10. more conservative
11. last
12. least
13. most
14. most
15. least
16. least
17. more than
18. less than
19. less than
20. more than
21. fewer than
22. the most
23. the fewest
24. fewer than

Exercise 4
1. My dog is the fastest animal in the state.
2. Henrietta is the most excellent student in the class.
3. Those boots are the most expensive ones in the store.
4. August is the most humid month of the year.
5. Babbo is the most expensive restaurant in the city.
6. Coldplay is the most wonderful band in the world.
7. Buffalo is the coldest city in the country.
8. Isabella is the most beautiful girl in the contest.
9. Trevor is the most talented cook in the class.
10. The Amazon is the deepest river in South America.

Exercise 5
1. as tall as
2. as excellent as
3. as handsome as
4. as tall as
5. not as long as
6. not as good as
7. not as hot as
8. as far as
9. not as expensive as
10. as windy

Exercise 6
1. better, than, worse, than
2. better, than, worse, than
3. better, than, worse, than
4. more, than, less, than
5. more, than, fewer, than

Exercise 7
1. good
2. better, than
3. the best
4. the worst
5. bad
6. worse
7. a little
8. more, than
9. less, than
10. the least
11. the most
12. more, than
13. the most
14. more, than
15. the least
16. fewer, than
17. more, than
18. fewer, than
19. the most
20. more, than
21. fewer, than
22. the most
23. the fewest
24. fewer, than

(continued on the next page...)
Answer Key cont.

**Exercise 8**

Answers will vary. Possible answers include:

**B. DESCRIPTIVE FORM**
- Greta is lazy.
- Isabella is very energetic.
- Rose is a shy girl.

**C. COMPARATIVE FORM**
- Isabella is more energetic than Rose.
- Rose is less outgoing than Isabella.
- Greta is older than Isabella.

**D. SUPERLATIVE FORM**
- Greta is the oldest girl in the group.
- Isabella is the smartest girl in the class.
- Greta is the shyest girl in the group.

**E. EQUIVATIVE / NON-EQUIVATIVE FORM**
- Rose is as tall as Isabella.
- Isabella is as old as Greta.
- Rose is not as shy as Greta.

**Exercise 9**

Answers will vary. Possible answers include:

**B. DESCRIPTIVE FORM**
- New Jersey is crowded.
- Wyoming is very large.
- New Hampshire has many lakes.

**C. COMPARATIVE FORM**
- New Jersey is more crowded than Wyoming.
- New Hampshire has more lakes than New Jersey.
- New Jersey has more beaches than New Hampshire.

**D. SUPERLATIVE FORM**
- Wyoming is the largest of the three states.
- New Jersey has the most beaches of the three states.
- Wyoming has the highest mountains of the three states.

**E. EQUIVATIVE / NON-EQUIVATIVE FORM**
- New Hampshire is as small as New Jersey.
- New Hampshire does not have as many beaches as New Jersey.
- Wyoming is not as crowded as New Jersey.