Overview

This comparatives and superlatives lesson is ideal for teaching or reviewing comparative and superlative adjectives and sentence structure. The lesson contains a grammar review and exercise based on comparative and superlative adjective forms as well as an exercise about using comparatives and superlatives in questions. The students then go on to do a comparison activity. Afterwards, students create a dialogue using the language from the lesson, which they then present to the class.

Answer key

Exercise A and B - Answer key

good - better - best
bad - worse - worst
fun - more fun - most fun
pretty - prettier - prettiest
easy - easier - easiest
big - bigger - biggest
light - lighter - lightest
heavy - heavier - heaviest
fast - faster - fastest
reliable - more reliable - most reliable
slow - slower - slowest
new - newer - newest
dry - drier - driest
happy - happier - happiest
old - older - oldest
nice - nicer - nicest
compact - more compact - most compact
tasty - tastier - tastiest
bitter - more bitter - most bitter
advanced - more advanced - most advanced
suitable - more suitable - most suitable
warm - warmer - warmest

eXercise C - Answer key

1. A: What is the **most interesting** place you’ve ever been to?
   B: **Sahara desert** is the most interesting.

2. A: What is the **tallest** building you’ve ever been in?
   B: **Mount Everest** is the tallest.

3. A: Which is **larger**, the Sahara desert or the Gobi desert?
   B: The **Sahara desert** is larger.

4. A: Who is **more famous**, Lady Gaga or Madonna?
   B: **Lady Gaga** is more famous.

5. A: Which country has a **larger** population, China or India?
   B: **China** has a larger population.

6. A: Which fruit has a **stronger** smell, bananas or durians?
   B: **Durians** have a stronger smell.

7. A: What is the **biggest** problem in the world today?
   B: **Warm** is the biggest.

8. A: Which is **higher**, Mount Everest or K2?
   B: **Mount Everest** is higher.
Comparatives and Superlatives

Adjectives are used to describe nouns. If two nouns are being compared to one another, we use comparative adjectives. When comparing three or more nouns, we use superlative adjectives.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Adjective form</th>
<th>Comparative form</th>
<th>Superlative form</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Only one syllable, ending in <strong>E</strong>.</td>
<td>Add <strong>-r</strong>: wider, finer, cuter</td>
<td>Add <strong>-st</strong>: widest, finest, cut- est</td>
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<tr>
<td>Examples: wide, fine, cute</td>
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<td>Only one syllable, with one vowel and one consonant at the end.</td>
<td>Double the consonant, and add <strong>-er</strong>: hotter, bigger, fatter</td>
<td>Double the consonant, and add <strong>-est</strong>: hottest, biggest, fattest</td>
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<tr>
<td>Examples: hot, big, fat</td>
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<tr>
<td>Only one syllable, with more than one vowel or more than one consonant at the end.</td>
<td>Add <strong>-er</strong>: lighter, neater, faster</td>
<td>Add <strong>-est</strong>: lightest, neatest, fastest</td>
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<td>Examples: light, neat, fast</td>
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<tr>
<td>Two syllables, ending in <strong>Y</strong>.</td>
<td>Change <strong>y</strong> to <strong>i</strong>, then add <strong>-er</strong>: happier, sillier, lonelier</td>
<td>Change <strong>y</strong> to <strong>i</strong>, then add <strong>-est</strong>: happiest, silliest, loneli est</td>
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<tr>
<td>Examples: happy, silly, lonely</td>
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<tr>
<td>Two syllables or more, not ending in <strong>Y</strong>.</td>
<td>Use <strong>more</strong> before the adjective: more modern, more interesting, more beautiful</td>
<td>Use <strong>most</strong> before the adjective: most modern, most interesting, most beautiful</td>
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<td>Examples: modern, interesting, beautiful</td>
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</table>

**A. These adjectives don’t follow the rules above. What are their comparative and superlative forms?**

- **good**
- **bad**
- **fun**
B. Write the comparative and superlative forms of the adjectives below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Adjective</th>
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<th>Superlative</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>cheap</td>
<td>cheaper</td>
<td>cheapest</td>
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<td>beautiful</td>
<td>more beautiful</td>
<td>most beautiful</td>
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<td>pretty</td>
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<td>happy</td>
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<tr>
<td>warm</td>
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</table>
C. Complete the questions and answers with comparatives and superlatives.

1. A: What is the _____________________ place you've ever been to? (interesting)
   
   B: _____________________ I've ever been to is _____________________.

2. A: What is _____________________ building you've ever been in? (tall)
   
   B: _____________________ I've ever been in is _____________________.

3. A: Which is _____________________, the Sahara desert or the Gobi desert? (large)
   
   B: The _____________________ is _____________________.

4. A: Who is _____________________, Lady Gaga or Madonna? (famous)
   
   B: _____________________ is _____________________.

5. A: Which country has a _____________________ population, China or India? (large)
   
   B: _____________________ has _____________________.

6. A: Which fruit has a _____________________ smell, bananas or a durians? (strong)
   
   B: _____________________ have _____________________.

7. A: What is _____________________ problem in the world today? (big)
   
   B: The _____________________ is _____________________.

8. A: Which is _____________________, Mount Everest or K2? (high)
   
   B: _____________________ is _____________________.
D. Which one do you prefer? Explain your answers using comparative sentences.

Which house would you choose and why?

A. $300,000
B. $75,000


Which car is better and why?

A. $50,000
B. $15,000


Which watch would you like to have and why?

A. $400
B. $75


E. In pairs, use the prompts to write a conversation using comparatives and superlatives.

Two friends are at the shopping mall. One friend is looking to buy a new phone.

A: sees two phones and asks for their friend’s opinion on the colour
B: says which colour they prefer and why
A: sees three more phones and asks which one is the best
B: says which one is the best and why
A: prefers another one because it looks good
B: agrees, but says that it is more expensive

A: ________________________________________________________________________
B: ________________________________________________________________________
A: ________________________________________________________________________
B: ________________________________________________________________________
A: ________________________________________________________________________
B: ________________________________________________________________________
A: ________________________________________________________________________
B: ________________________________________________________________________

F. Now, present your dialogue to the class.