Degrees of Adjectives

What is a Degree of an Adjective?

Adjectives describe the quality of a noun or pronoun. When we use adjectives to show comparison, we use their degrees.

There are three degrees of comparison:

1. Positive Degree

- Used to show no comparison.
- It only tells about the quality.

Example: Kanika is a fast runner.

2. Comparative Degree

- o Used when we compare two people or things.
- Usually formed by adding -er or using more before the adjective.

Example: Madhu runs faster than Kanika.

3. Superlative Degree

- Used to compare more than two people or things.
- o Usually formed by adding -est or using most before the adjective.

Example: Niki is the fastest runner of the three.

Formation Rules

Rule 1: Add -er / -est to regular adjectives

Positive	Comparative	Superlative
tall	taller	tallest
short	shorter	shortest
poor	poorer	poorest

Rule 2: For adjectives ending in -e, add -r / -st

Positive	Comparative	Superlative
large	larger	largest
brave	braver	bravest

Rule 3: Double the final consonant if it's consonant + vowel + consonant

Positive	Comparative	Superlative
thin	thinner	thinnest
hot	hotter	hottest

Rule 4: If the adjective ends in -y, change -y to -i and add -er / -est

Positive	Comparative	Superlative
happy	happier	happiest
busy	busier	busiest

Rule 5: Use more / most for longer adjectives (2+ syllables)

Positive	Comparative	Superlative
beautiful	more beautiful	most beautiful
intelligent	more intelligent	most intelligent

Rule 6: Irregular adjectives

Positive	Comparative	Superlative
good	better	best
bad	worse	worst
much	more	most
little	less	least

Common Errors to Avoid

- X Madhu is more wiser than Neha.
 - Madhu is wiser than Neha.
- X The Statue of Unity is the most tallest statue.
 - ✓ The Statue of Unity is the **tallest** statue.

Practice Examples

Complete the degrees:

Positive	Comparative	Superlative
big	bigger	biggest
easy	easier	easiest
powerful	more powerful	most powerful

Fill in the blanks with correct degree:

- 1. She is wiser than her brother.
- 2. He is a **brave** boy.
- 3. You are more **obedient** than her.
- 4. Teacher gave a difficult question.
- 5. A cat is **smaller** than a dog.

Real-World Usage (Superlative Sentences)

- 1. Russia is the largest country in the world.
- 2. Vatican City is the smallest country in the world.
- 3. The **Pacific Ocean** is the **deepest** ocean in the world.
- 4. **Jupiter** is the **largest** planet in the solar system.
- 5. **Angel Falls** is the **highest** waterfall in the world.

Key Takeaways

- Use **Positive** degree when there's **no comparison**.
- Use **Comparative** for comparing **two** items.
- Use **Superlative** when comparing **three or more** items.
- Follow formation rules carefully (watch for spelling and irregular forms).