

Adjectives are of three degrees. (1) Positive (2) Comparative (3) Superlative

Comparison can be made using the three forms of the adjective.

Adjective is a word and it qualifies a noun. It gives more information about the noun.

eg. The lion is a **strong** animal. Rita is a **beautiful** girl.

eg. David is a **rich** man.

eg. Chancel is **more dreadful** than cholera.

eg. Mount Everest is **the highest** peak in the world.

Degrees of Comparison are applicable only to Adjectives and Adverbs

Nouns and verbs do not have degrees of comparisons

❖ Positive: No other metal is as **precious** as gold.

Comparative: Gold is **more precious** than any other metal.

Superlative: Gold is **the most precious** of all metals.

❖ Superlative: India is **the largest** democracy in the world.

Comparative: India is **larger than** any other democracy in the world.

Positive: **No other** democracy in the world is as **large** as India.

❖ Superlative: Susie is **one of the cleverest** girls in the class.

Comparative: Susie is **cleverer than most other** girls in the class.

Positive: **Few** girls in the class are as **clever** as Susie.

TYPE – I: Comparing only two things.

Rules:

Subject becomes the object and vice-versa.

If the given sentence is positive add 'Not' to it.

If the given sentence is negative remove 'Not' from it.

In positive degree if it does not have "Not" then use the words "as...as".

Note: No Superlative degree possible.

Ex:

Raj is cleverer than Ram [Comparative]

Ram is not so clever as Raj [Positive]

TYPE – II: Comparing two or more than two things.

Ex:

Pacific is the deepest ocean in the world.

Pacific is deeper than any other ocean in the world. [Comparative]

No other ocean in the world is so deep as Pacific. [Superlative]

Note:

Types

Positive

Comparative

Superlative

Trick

I	No other	Any other	The	NAT
II	Very few	Many other	One of the	VMO

- Comparative degree has the ending term “er”
- Superlative degree has the ending term “st”

Sl. No	P	C	S
1	Able	Abler	Ablest
2	Big	Bigger	Biggest
3	Cool	Cooler	Coolest
4	Dull	Duller	Dullest
5	Easy	Easier	Easiest
6	Fine	Finer	Finest
7	Great	Greater	Greatest
8	High	Higher	Highest
9	Kind	Kinder	Kindest
10	Large	Larger	Largest
11	Much	More	Most
12	Near	Nearer	Nearest
13	Quick	Quicker	Quickest
14	Swift	Swifter	Swiftest
15	Wealthy	Wealthier	Wealthiest

Comparison and Contrast

1. When we compare two objects, persons, qualities, degrees etc. the two are some respects equal, we may use the comparison of equality. This is formed by the use of

as... adjective / adverb... as

eg. **Your house is as large as mine.**

2. When we compare unquals, we may use the comparative degree of the adjective or adverb with **than**

eg. **His new book is more interesting than his earlier books**

3. When the comparison is negative, we use

so... adjective / adverb... as

eg. **Your house is not quite so large as mine.**

4. In some adverbial clauses of comparison both subject and verb are dropped.

eg. **He is more shy than (he is) unsocial.**

Some people think more about their rights than (they do) about their duties.

5. In clauses of comparison introduced by *than that* 'should' is used.

eg. **I am already to do the work myself rather than that you should have to do it.**

6. Comparison and contrast are also expressed by the use of the...the...with comparatives.

eg. **The sooner you start, the sooner you'll finish.**

The more he read, the less he understood.

Exercise 1

1. My brother's handwriting is (bad) mine.
2. Health is wealth. (important)
3. Blood is water. (thick)
4. Everest is peak in the world. (high)
5. This is play I have ever heard on the radio. (interesting)
6. Susie is of all the four sisters. (beautiful)
7. The planet Mars is from the earth than the satellite Moon. (far)
8. The elephant is animal in the world. (large)
9. An ocean is certainly a sea. (big)
10. I am in cricket than in football. (interested)

Key

1. My brother's handwriting is **worse than** mine.
2. Health **is more important than** wealth.
3. Blood is **thicker than** water.
4. Everest is **the highest peak** in the world.
5. This is **the most interesting** play that I have ever heard on the radio.
6. Susie is **the most beautiful** of all the four sisters.
7. The planet Mars is **farther** from the earth than the satellite moon.
8. The elephant is **the largest** animal in the world.
9. An ocean is certainly **bigger than** a sea.
10. I am **more interested** in cricket than in football.

Exercise 2

1. No other boy is as as James. (tall / taller / tallest)
2. Milk is than any other food. (nourishing / more nourishing / most nourishing)

3. Radium is one of the metals. (valuable / more valuable / most valuable)
4. Few English poets were as as Wordsworth. (great / greater / greatest)
5. Shimla is than most other hill stations in India. (famous / more famous / most famous)
6. Gold is one of the metals. (precious / more precious / most precious)
7. Solomon was than any other king. (wise / wiser / wisest)
8. Few historians write as as Macaulay. (well / better / best)
9. Very few books are as as David Copperfield. (popular / more popular / most popular)
10. A train is than a car. (fast / faster / fastest)

Key

1. No other boy is as **tall** as James.
2. Milk is **more nourishing** than any other food.
3. Radium is one of the **most valuable** metals.
4. Few English poets were as **great** as Wordsworth.
5. Shimla is **more famous** than most other hill stations in India.
6. Gold is one of the **most precious** metals.
7. Solomon was **wiser** than any other king.
8. Few historians write as **well** as Macaulay.
9. Very few books are as **popular** as David Copperfield.
10. A train is **faster** than a car.

Exercise 3

1. How is your father today? Is he any _____?
 - a) good
 - b) better
 - c) best
2. The climate of Chennai is than the climate of Bangalore.
 - a) hot
 - b) hotter
 - c) hottest
3. She is than her sister.
 - a) pretty
 - b) prettier
 - c) more pretty
4. Jane is the student in the class.
 - a) brightest

- b) bright
c) brighter
5. He is the man in the town.
a) rich
b) richer
c) richest
6. James is two years than me.
a) old
b) older
c) oldest
7. Annie is the friend I have.
a) good
b) better
c) best
8. Mount Everest is the peak of the Himalayas.
a) high
b) higher
c) highest
9. He is the of the two.
a) tall
b) taller
c) tallest
10. The pen is than the sword.
a) might
b) mightier
c) mightiest

Key

1. Is he any **better**?
2. The climate of Chennai is **hotter** than the climate of Bangalore.
3. She is **prettier** than her sister.
4. Jane is the **brightest** student in the class.
5. He is the **richest** man in the town.

6. James is two years **older** than me.
7. Annie is the **best** friend I have.
8. Mount Everest is the **highest** peak of the Himalayas.
9. He is the **taller** of the two.
10. The pen is **mightier** than the sword.

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