

COMPARATIVES (see also *Inside Grammar* from page 337 to page 343)

One-syllable adjectives: **adj + er + than**

Ex: Lodi is cleaner **than** Milan

Milan is bigger **than** Lodi

Two-syllable adjectives ending in consonant + y: adj +er + than

Ex: Susan is happier than John

London is friendlier than Milan

Two-syllable adjectives ending in -ow, -le – er can have two comparative forms (but more often they add ER).

Ex: Susan is cleverer (more clever) than John.

Streets in Lodi are narrower (more narrow) than in Milan

English is simpler (more simple) than any other language.

Long adjectives (with two or more syllables): **more + adj + than**

Ex: Milan is more crowded than Lodi

English is more interesting than ancient Greek.

SUPERLATIVES

One-syllable adjectives (and adjectives ending in consonant + y): the + adj + est in....

Ex: Milan is the busiest town in Italy.

This is the cheapest shop in town

Long adjectives (with two or more syllables): the most + adj + in

Ex: Calcutta is the most polluted town in the world (or: all over the world)

Paris is now one of the most dangerous towns in Europe (or: all over Europe).

(It's also possible to use **the least** + adj + in: ex: He's the least friendly person I know.)

REMEMBER: the superlative is always followed by the preposition IN .

It's followed by OF only when we talk about a small group of people.

Notice the expression "on earth"

Ex: He's the cleverest boy in class.

He's the cleverest of the three.

He's the cleverest boy on earth

IRREGULAR FORMS:

GOOD	BETTER	THE BEST
BAD	WORSE	THE WORST
FAR	FARTHER/FURTHER	The farthest/ the furthest
LITTLE	LESS	THE LEAST
MUCH	MORE	THE MOST

OLD has also got the irregular form ELDER/ THE ELDEST only used for family members
(ex: my elder/ eldest brother)

Quantifiers: we can use **a bit, a lot, much** to intensify the comparative form.

Ex: Milan is much bigger than Lodi

Lodi is a bit cleaner than Milan

OTHER WAYS OF MAKING COMPARISONS:

(not) as + adj + as

ex: London is as noisy as Milan
London isn't as dangerous as Milan
Lodi isn't as dirty as Milan.

Less + adj. + than

ex: Lodi is less polluted than Milan
Milan is less clean than Lodi

Notice some common expressions:

As soon as possible

As much/ many as possible

As early as possible

As quick as a flash

Special uses of comparatives:

To translate "sempre più..."

It's getting darker and darker

Days are getting shorter and shorter.

Life is becoming more and more expensive

To translate "più....più..":

The more you eat, the fatter you get.

The more you study, the better marks you get.

COMPARATIVES WITH ADVERBS:

- **Regular adverbs:** more quickly than.....; the most quickly

- **Irregular adverbs:**

fast	faster than	the fastest
Hard	harder than	the hardest
Early	earlier than	the earliest
Late	later than	the latest
Well	better than	the best
Badly	worse than	the worst