

Comparatives and Superlatives

Adjectives			Comparative			Superlative				
monosyllabic adj.			<i>adj.</i> + -er + than	<i>taller than</i>	the + <i>adj.</i> + -est + of/in	the <i>tallest</i> of/in				
bisyllabic adj. in -y, -le, -er, -ow				<i>cleverer than</i>		the <i>cleverest</i> of/in				
other bisyllabic adj.			more + <i>adj.</i> + than	<i>more famous than</i>	the most + <i>adj.</i> + of/in	the most famous of/in				
plurisyllabic adj.				<i>more interesting than</i>		the most interesting of/in				
Spelling modifications										
adjectives in -e			+ -r + than	<i>wider than</i>	the + <i>adj.</i> + -st + of/in	the <i>widest</i> of/in				
monosyllabic adj. in 1 vowel + 1 cons.			double cons. + -er + than	<i>bigger than</i>	the + <i>adj.</i> + double cons. + -est...	the <i>biggest</i> of/in				
bisyllabic adj. in -y			-y → i + -er + than	<i>dirtier than</i>	the + <i>adj.</i> + -i + -est + of/in	the <i>dirtiest</i> of/in				
Irregular adjectives										
Adjective	Comparative	Superlative		Adjective	Comparative	Superlative		Adjective	Comparative	Superlative
good (well)	better	the best	near (=vicino)	nearer		the nearest	old (=vecchio)	older		the oldest
bad (badly)	worse	the worst				the next		elder		the eldest
late (=tardi)	later	the latest	far (=lontano)	farther	the farthest	next	much/many	more		the most
	<i>the former...</i>	the last				further		the furthest		little (poco)*
	the latter ...	last				<i>*few (pochi)</i>	<i>fewer</i>			<i>the fewest</i>
Idiomatic expressions and particular uses										
comparative + and + comparative			<i>sempre più + agg.</i>		ex. Sue is growing taller and taller , more and more beautiful every day.					
			<i>sempre più + avv.</i>		ex. Be careful! You're driving more and more recklessly as time goes by!					
			<i>sempre più + sost.</i>		ex. There are more and more people travelling every year.					
the + comparative, the + comparative			<i>Più agg./avv./sost</i> <i>più agg./avv./sost</i>		ex. The slimmer she gets, the happier she is.					
					ex. The more I read, the more interesting the book gets.					
					ex. The more people come, the better .					
better and better <i>di bene in meglio</i>			from bad to worse <i>di male in peggio</i>			sooner or later <i>prima o poi</i>		no (not any) longer <i>non ... più</i> no (not any) more		
Other Comparatives										
Comparative of equality						Comparative of minority				
adjective	(not) as + <i>adj.</i> + as		as <i>high</i> as			less + <i>adj.</i> + than		less <i>tiring</i> than		
adverb	(not) as + <i>adv.</i> + as		as <i>rapidly</i> as			less + <i>adv.</i> + than		less <i>frequently</i> than		
uncountable noun	(not) as much + <i>noun.</i> + as		as much <i>money</i> as			less + <i>noun</i> + than		less <i>pollution</i> than		
pl. countable noun	(not) as many + <i>noun.</i> + as		as many <i>dogs</i> as			fewer + <i>noun</i> + than		fewer <i>students</i> than		
verb	(not) <i>verb</i> + as much as		<i>Study as much</i> as possible.			<i>verb</i> + less + than		We go out less than them.		