

# ADJECTIVES and ADVERBS

## Forming Comparatives and Superlatives

### Adjectives

- ◆ **One-syllable adjectives** generally form the comparative with **-er** and the superlative with **-est**.

**adjective**  
(no comparison)

**comparative**  
(comparing 2)

**superlative**  
(3 or more)

bright

brighter

brightest

great

greater

greatest

short

shorter

shortest

- ◆ Adjectives with **two or more syllables** form the comparative with **more** and the superlative with **most**.

beautiful

more beautiful

most beautiful

brilliant

more brilliant

most brilliant

wonderful

more wonderful

most wonderful

- ◆ **EXCEPTION: For two-syllable adjectives ending in -y, change the y to i and add -er or -est. (*rocky/rockier; hazy/hazier; happy/happier*)**

### Adverbs

- ◆ Most **-ly** words are adverbs.

- ◆ All adverbs ending in **-ly** form the comparative with **more** and the superlative with **most**.

beautifully

more beautifully

most beautifully

brilliantly

more brilliantly

most brilliantly

wonderfully

more wonderfully

most wonderfully

- ◆ **Good** is an adjective describing the person or thing and **well** is most often an adverb telling how the action is done.

**Adjective:** *Ricky Martin is a **good** dancer.* (*Good* tells **what kind** of dancer he is.)

**Adverb:** *He dances especially **well**.* (*Well* tells **how** he dances.)

[**Well** can be an adjective when referring to how someone feels: *He doesn't feel **well** today.*]

REMEMBER: the **comparative** is used to compare **two**; the **superlative** is used to compare **three or more**. These degrees are expressed either by the *-er* and *-est* endings (with one-syllable words) or by *more* and *most* (with two or more-syllable words). Don't EVER use both at the same time.

*Correct any errors in the use of ADJECTIVES and ADVERBS.*

1. My new secretary types real good.
2. Next year's student council should take its obligations more serious than this year's did.
3. I feel very badly about having missed him.
4. The accident was not near as bad as it would have been if he had not been driving cautious.
5. The Eiffel Tower in Paris is a very unique structure.
6. The South Pole is the coldest of the two poles.
7. Her pink top clashed bad with her orange skirt.
8. It was Shakespeare who said that a rose by any other name would smell as sweetly.
9. Today's lecture wasn't very good because the teacher felt badly.

*Correct errors in the COMPARATIVE and SUPERLATIVE forms of the adjectives and adverbs.*

10. German shepherds are the more dependable of all the guide dogs for the blind.
11. I find the Smithsonian is the most interesting of the two museums.
12. The new missile is more faster than its predecessor.
13. The importantest thing to remember about this car is that the clutch doesn't work.
14. The most unusualest piece in the collection was an ebony necklace.
15. The roast beef is the cheaper item on the whole menu.
16. She was the tallest of the two sisters.
17. That is the most saddest story I have ever heard.
18. Of the three books in the trilogy, I liked the third one better.
19. We should buy the fastest of the two printers.
20. Dr. Jones was the more interesting of all the lecturers.
21. Jason is a gooder writer than his brother.
22. This was the worse cold I have ever had.