

# It's GRAMMAR TIME

1

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### Adjectives



	Positive	Comparative	Superlative	Irregular Forms		
				Positive	Comparative	Superlative
short adjectives	tall long	taller longer	the tallest the longest			
adjectives ending in -y	busy happy	busier happier	the busiest the happiest	little much/many/a lot of good bad far	less more better worse farther/further	the least the most the best the worst the farthest/furthest
longer adjectives	beautiful	more beautiful	the most beautiful			

### Form

- With **one-syllable** and **two-syllable** adjectives, we form the **comparative** by adding **-er**, and the **superlative** by adding **-est**. *quick – quicker – quickest*
- With **adjectives of more than two syllables**, we form the **comparative** with **more**, and the **superlative** with **the most**. *beautiful – more beautiful – the most beautiful*
- With some **two-syllable adjectives**, such as *friendly, clever, narrow, gentle* etc we form the **comparative** either with **-er** or with **more**, and the **superlative** either with **-est** or with **most**. *clever – cleverer – cleverest* or *clever – more clever – most clever*

### Spelling

- To **one-syllable** adjectives ending in **-e**, we add **-r** in the **comparative**, and **-st** in the **superlative**. *large – larger – largest*
- To **one-syllable** adjectives ending in a **vowel + consonant**, we **double the last consonant** and add **-er/-est**. *big – bigger – biggest*
- To **two-syllable** adjectives ending in **-y**, we **drop the -y** and add **-ier/-iest**. *heavy – heavier – heaviest*

### Use

- We use the **comparative** to compare one person, animal, thing, place, etc with another. We normally use **than** with the comparative. *A squirrel is smaller than a tiger.*
- We use the **superlative** to compare one person, animal, thing, place, etc with more than one person, animal, thing, place etc in the same group. *A mouse is the smallest of all.*
- We use **the ... of/in** with the superlative. *Lee is the smartest of all. Bob is the smartest boy in the class.* We use **in** with the superlative when we talk about places. *Mt Everest is the tallest mountain in the world.* (NOT: ~~of the world~~)

### Note:

- **very + adjective** *The dolphins are very clever.*
- **much + comparative form of adjective** *A horse is much taller than a parrot.*
- **(not) as + adjective + as** *A lion is not as fast as a cheetah.*

**Adverbs**

Adverbs	Positive	Comparative	Superlative
ending in -ly	slowly	<b>more slowly</b>	<b>the most slowly</b>
the same form as adjectives	fast late early	<b>faster</b> <b>later</b> <b>earlier</b>	<b>the fastest</b> <b>the latest</b> <b>the earliest</b>
irregular forms	little well badly far	<b>less</b> <b>better</b> <b>worse</b> <b>farther/further</b>	<b>the least</b> <b>the best</b> <b>the worst</b> <b>the farthest/furthest</b>

- Adverbs which have the same form as the adjective, take **-er** in the comparative and **-est** in the superlative.  
*hard – harder – hardest*
- Adverbs formed by adding **-ly** to the adjective, take **more** in the comparative and **most** in the superlative.  
*carefully – more carefully – most carefully*

**1** Look at the jokes and the words in bold above. a) What part of speech are they? b) What form are they? c) How do we form the *comparative* and *superlative* form of adjectives/adverbs? Give examples.

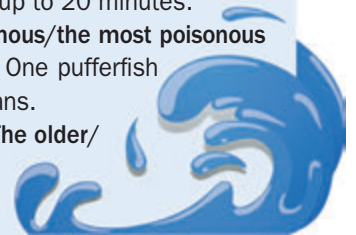
**2** Write the *comparative* and *superlative* form of the following adjectives.

- |               |               |                |
|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| 1 long        | <i>longer</i> | <i>longest</i> |
| 2 thick       | .....         | .....          |
| 3 thin        | .....         | .....          |
| 4 bad         | .....         | .....          |
| 5 sharp       | .....         | .....          |
| 6 small       | .....         | .....          |
| 7 happy       | .....         | .....          |
| 8 careful     | .....         | .....          |
| 9 intelligent | .....         | .....          |
| 10 good       | .....         | .....          |
| 11 far        | .....         | .....          |
| 12 friendly   | .....         | .....          |

**4** Choose the correct item.

**SEALIFE FACTFILE**

- The black marlin is **1) the fastest/faster** fish in the sea. It can swim 80 miles per hour.
- The whale shark is **2) the largest/larger** than the great white shark. It can get as large as 18 metres.
- The great white shark has **3) sharper/the sharpest** teeth of all sharks.
- Humpback whales sing **4) the longest/the most long** whale songs. They can last up to 20 minutes.
- Pufferfish are **5) more poisonous/the most poisonous** than stonefish and lionfish. One pufferfish can easily kill 30 adult humans.
- Lobsters live long lives. **6) The older/The oldest** lobster ever caught was 70 years old!



**3** Write the *comparative* and *superlative* form of the following adverbs.


- |           |                     |                     |
|-----------|---------------------|---------------------|
| 1 heavily | <i>more heavily</i> | <i>most heavily</i> |
| 2 quickly | .....               | .....               |
| 3 early   | .....               | .....               |
| 4 bravely | .....               | .....               |
| 5 hard    | .....               | .....               |
| 6 clearly | .....               | .....               |
| 7 fast    | .....               | .....               |
| 8 angrily | .....               | .....               |
| 9 well    | .....               | .....               |
| 10 little | .....               | .....               |

**5** Fill in: *of*, *in*, or *than*.


**AMAZING FACTS**

- 1 Elephants are the heaviest *of* all land animals.
- 2 Athens is one of the oldest cities ..... the world.
- 3 There are many oceans in the world, but the Pacific Ocean is the largest ..... all.
- 4 Johannesburg has more trees ..... any other city in the world.
- 5 The giant huntsman spider has the longest legs ..... all spiders.
- 6 We know more about space ..... we do about life in the deep sea.

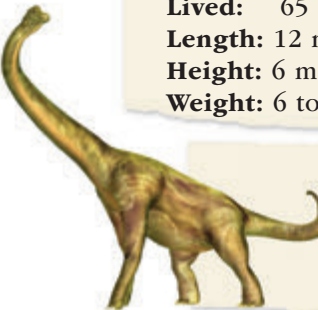
**6** Use the information below to complete sentences 1-6 with the *comparative/superlative* forms of the adjectives in brackets, adding any necessary words.



**ALLOSAURUS**  
**Lived:** 150 million years ago  
**Length:** 11 metres  
**Height:** 5 metres  
**Weight:** 4 tons



**T-REX**  
**Lived:** 65 million years ago  
**Length:** 12 metres  
**Height:** 6 metres  
**Weight:** 6 tons



**BRACHIOSAURUS**  
**Lived:** 154 million years ago  
**Length:** 26 metres  
**Height:** 16 metres  
**Weight:** 40 tons

- 1 Brachiosaurus was *the oldest of* (old) all three dinosaurs.
- 2 Allosaurus was ..... (small) and ..... (light) T-Rex.
- 3 Brachiosaurus was ..... (tall) all three.
- 4 Allosaurus weighed ..... (little) T-Rex.
- 5 Brachiosaurus was ..... (heavy) all three.
- 6 Allosaurus was not as ..... (tall) the other two dinosaurs.

**7** Put the words in the correct order.

**Did you know?**

- 1 blue/are/whales/heaviest/the/creatures/world/in/the  
*Blue whales are the heaviest creatures in the world.*
- 2 african grey parrots/more/learn/words/can/than/other parrot species  
 .....
- 3 loggerhead turtles/bigger/are/sea turtles/than/other/all the  
 .....
- 4 giraffes/animals/tallest/Earth/are/on/the  
 .....

**8** Toby is thinking of getting a cat. Look at the table and make sentences to help him decide.



	Tabby kitten	Black cat	Siberian cat
young	xxx	xx	x
sweet	xx	x	xxx
noisy	x	xxx	xx
quick	x	xx	xxx
friendly	xxx	xx	x

- 1 *The black cat is younger than the Siberian cat. ....But the tabby kitten is the youngest of all.*
- 2 .....
- 3 .....
- 4 .....
- 5 .....

**9** Complete the sentences using *as* or *than* and the word in brackets in the correct form.

- 1 I don't spend *as much* as you do on clothes. (much)
- 2 Ricky is ..... my friend James. (funny)
- 3 Please be ..... as you can; the baby's sleeping. (quiet)
- 4 Blue Whales are more ..... tigers. (endangered)
- 5 Using a tablet is as ..... using a desktop computer. (easy)
- 6 Sarah is ..... her sister Michelle. (slim)
- 7 Kevin doesn't study ..... as his brother. (hard)
- 8 Larry's truck is ..... Eric's. (fast)
- 9 This box is ..... the others; can you help me carry it? (heavy)
- 10 This dictionary is ..... that one. (good)

**10** Choose the correct answer.

- 1 Lewis is ..... person in my office.  
A tall      B the tallest      C taller
- 2 That's ..... song I've ever heard.  
A the horrible      B more horrible  
C the most horrible
- 3 Scotland is very ..... in the winter.  
A cold      B colder      C coldest
- 4 I think History is ..... subject of all!  
A the most interesting      B interesting  
C more interesting
- 5 My bag isn't ..... heavy as yours.  
A very      B as      C much
- 6 You walk ..... than a turtle! Hurry up!  
A slower      B more slowly      C slowly
- 7 Frank cooked a ..... meal last night.  
A most delicious      B delicious  
C more delicious
- 8 Helen lives ..... away than any of us.  
A further      B the furthest      C far

**11** Complete the sentences. Use the *comparative* or *superlative* form of the adjectives/adverbs adding any necessary words.

**DRAGONS:**  
**Lords of the skies**

Many myths, legends and stories talk about a large monster **1) more terrible (terrible)** than other monsters, and **2) ..... (wild)** than any wild animal that lives today. This frightening beast was the dragon, **3) ..... (scary)** creature in the ancient world. People believed that dragons were much **4) ..... (old)** than giants or unicorns, and that they were **5) ..... (intelligent)** animals of all. Some could talk and were much **6) ..... (smart)** than humans! Dragons fought **7) ..... (aggressively)** than any other monster, and they could even breathe fire! They also had large wings that let them fly **8) ..... (quickly)** than other beasts, and carried them **9) ..... (high)** into the clouds than any bird. We now know that dragons aren't real animals, but to ancient people these huge lizards were the lords of the skies!



**12** Fill in *very* or *much*.

- 1 A: This house is *very* nice. We should buy it!  
B: Yes, but it is also ..... more expensive than we can afford.
- 2 A: Debbie is a ..... good secretary.  
B: Yes, I know. She's ..... more hardworking than the other girls in the office.
- 3 A: It was ..... sunnier yesterday than today.  
B: You're right, but it's still ..... warm today.
- 4 A: Table tennis is a ..... enjoyable sport to play.  
B: Yes, but I think tennis is ..... more exciting!

**Speaking**

In pairs, look at the pictures and make *comparisons* using the *adjectives* in the box.

- heavy • big • small
- dangerous • strong • cute



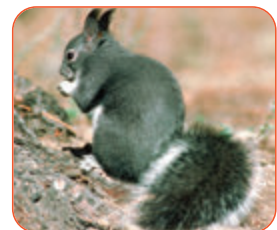
Bear



Wolf



Monkey



Squirrel

- A: A wolf is bigger than a monkey.  
B: Yes! And a monkey is much bigger than a squirrel. The bear is the biggest of all. etc.

**Writing**

Find pictures of animals and make *comparisons*. Use the *Speaking* activity and/or your own ideas.

A monkey is smarter than a panda. ...

## Past simple (irregular verbs)

**1** Read the text below. Circle all the verbs in the *past simple*. Which are *regular*? Which are *irregular*? List them under the headings.

### Troodon

Troodons were amazing creatures that became extinct 65 million years ago. Troodon was a small bird-like dinosaur only 2.4 metres long and weighed up to 50 kgs. It was shorter than humans! Troodon was a meat-eating dinosaur that used its sharp claws and teeth to kill other animals. It had strong legs and ran very fast. Troodon had the best vision of all other dinosaurs. It had large eyes and it could spot its prey more easily than any other dinosaur. It also had a big brain for its size and was one of the smartest dinosaurs. Like most dinosaurs, Troodons laid eggs and sat on them to keep them warm, just like birds do today. However, the young Troodon left the nest very quickly like crocodiles. Troodons were very dangerous dinosaurs and excellent hunters. The reason they disappeared is still a mystery.

Regular	Irregular
.....	.....
.....	.....
.....	.....
.....	.....

**2** a) How do we form the interrogative and negative forms of the *past simple*? How do we form short answers?

b) Read the text. Use the words to form questions. Then answer them using short answers.

- Troodons/weigh/up to 50 kgs  
.....  
.....
- they/have/strong legs  
.....  
.....
- they/have/small eyes  
.....  
.....
- they/be/dangerous dinosaurs  
.....  
.....

## Adverbs

**3** a) Highlight the *adverbs* in the text in Ex. 1. How are *adverbs* formed? What do *adverbs* and *adjectives* describe?

b) Choose the correct item.

- He is a **slow/slowly** runner.
- Helen is very **happily/happy** today.
- Cross the road **carefully/careful**.
- Get ready for work **quickly/quick**.
- Laura sings **bad/badly**.
- The maths test was very **easy/easily**.

## Comparatives – Superlatives

**4** a) Underline the *comparative* and *superlative adjectives* in the text and write them in the appropriate column below. Complete the missing forms.

Adjective	Comparative	Superlative
.....	.....	.....
.....	.....	.....
.....	.....	.....

b) Find a comparative form of an adverb. How do we form *comparative* and *superlative* forms of adverbs?

c) Put the adjectives/adverbs in brackets into the *comparative* and *superlative*.

- Hippos are ..... (**big**) than sheep.
- Sarah dances ..... (**beautifully**) of all.
- A lion is ..... (**dangerous**) than a cat.
- Giraffes have got ..... (**long**) necks of all animals.
- My mum talks ..... (**politely**) than anyone I know.
- The cheetah is ..... (**fast**) animal in the world.

d) Complete the sentences using *as ... as*, *very* or *much*.

- Helen can't speak French ..... (**well**) Elizabeth.
- England is ..... (**cold**) in winter.
- It's ..... (**hot**) in here.
- Jack isn't ..... (**strong**) as I am.
- London is ..... (**big**) than York.



### 1 Circle the correct item.

- 1 ..... you wash the dishes last night?  
A Do            B Did            C Were
- 2 I think *the Guardian* is the ..... newspaper in the UK.  
A good            B better            C best
- 3 Are the ..... ready to leave?  
A womans            B women            C woman
- 4 Today is hotter ..... yesterday.  
A from            B of            C than
- 5 ..... Peter ..... at his desk now?  
A Does, work            B Is, working            C Did, work
- 6 They ..... the bus to work every day.  
A are taking            B take            C takes
- 7 ..... got a daughter?  
A Has Tom            B Tom hasn't            C Tom has
- 8 How ..... is your house from the airport?  
A much            B far            C long
- 9 Are there ..... onions in the cupboard?  
A any            B some            C a
- 10 Mike ..... eats out; he says it isn't healthy.  
A always            B usually            C never
- 11 Jake stood ..... the bank and waited for Ted.  
A among            B in front of            C between
- 12 George and Ben forgot ..... skateboards at home.  
A their            B they're            C them
- 13 This is ..... flat.  
A Helen and Ken's  
B Helen's and Ken  
C Helen's and Ken's
- 14 Whose magazines are ..... over there?  
A these            B those            C they
- 15 ..... Nile river is in Egypt.  
A The            B -            C A
- 16 That isn't Terry's coat. .... is in the wardrobe.  
A He            B Him            C His
- 17 ..... any curtains on the window.  
A There isn't            B There is  
C There aren't
- 18 ..... you and Andy at the theatre last night?  
A Did            B Were            C Was
- 19 My birthday is ..... July.  
A on            B at            C in
- 20 Emily can iron clothes but she ..... cook.  
A can            B can't            C can not
- 21 Would you like ..... crisps?  
A any            B some            C a
- 22 Kelly loves ..... books in the evening.  
A reading            b to reading            C read
- 23 There is ..... bakery next to the cinema.  
A a            B -            C the
- 24 Jane isn't as ..... as her sister.  
A tallest            B taller            C tall
- 25 This building is really beautiful. .... a picture of it.  
A Take            B Don't take  
C Not take

### ▶ Grammar in Focus

Fill in the correct form of the words in brackets, choose the correct word or fill in the gap.

- A Dinosaurs **1)** ..... (**live**) on the Earth millions of years **2)** ..... However, not all dinosaurs **3)** ..... (**look**) the same. There were more **4)** ..... 5000 kinds. The Brontosaurus, **5)** ..... example, was twenty metres long and **6)** ..... (**eat**) only plants. The T-Rex was one of the **7)** **biggest/bigger** meat eaters. It **8)** ..... (**have**) a huge head and long back legs. It **9)** ..... (**can**) run very **10)** ..... (**quick**)!
- B Fota Wildlife Park is the biggest wildlife park **1)** ..... Ireland. It is **2)** ..... an island near Cork City. It **3)** ..... (**have got**) over 30 mammal and bird species. Many of **4)** ..... animals walk around **5)** ..... (**free**). **6)** ..... is also an education centre in the park where visitors can learn about **7)** ..... environment.
- C The dodo is **1)** ..... extinct bird. It disappeared **2)** ..... the 16th century. The dodo **3)** ..... (**be**) around 1 metre tall. It **4)** ..... (**can/not**) fly and it made **5)** ..... nest in fields. The dodos became extinct when Dutch sailors arrived on the island and killed **6)** ..... for food.



## Multiple choice questions

Choose the correct item.

- 1 Alex can run fast. He's ..... athlete.  
A a            B an            C -
- 2 ..... American flag has stars and stripes.  
A -            B The            C An
- 3 ..... touch that knife, please!  
A Do            B Don't            C Does
- 4 Can I have ..... glass of water, please?  
A some            B -            C a
- 5 My brother ..... play the piano but he can sing.  
A can't            B isn't            C hasn't
- 6 History ..... a difficult subject.  
A are            B is            C aren't
- 7 They ..... American. They're Spanish.  
A aren't            B are            C isn't
- 8 My sister is tall. .... is a model.  
A She            B Her            C Hers
- 9 George and I are Greek. .... are from Greece.  
A Us            B We            C You
- 10 Look at ..... . He's my son.  
A he            B him            C his
- 11 Mary, are these ..... binoculars?  
A your            B you            C yours
- 12 ..... does he go to the cinema?  
A How much            B How often  
C How old
- 13 "..... is his shop?" "It's next to my house."  
A Where            B When            C How
- 14 "..... is this jumper?" "It's Susan's."  
A What            B Which            C Whose
- 15 I need two ..... to put the books inside.  
A box            B boxes            C boxies
- 16 I love my aunts. They're nice ..... .  
A ladies            B ladys            C lades
- 17 This is my car. .... blue.  
A It's            B It            C Its
- 18 Would you like ..... orange juice?  
A little            B some            C any
- 19 Are there ..... apples left?  
A some            B any            C much
- 20 There aren't ..... students in the class.  
A many            B some            C much
- 21 Could you pass me ..... book, please?  
A this            B that            C those
- 22 ..... souvenirs are from Crete.  
A These            B This            C That
- 23 John's cat is ..... the tree.  
A between            B under            C above
- 24 My brother lives ..... Paris.  
A at            B to            C in
- 25 This sandwich is ..... . I made it a few minutes ago.  
A my            B me            C mine
- 26 ..... your mum got blue eyes?  
A Have            B Has            C Haven't
- 27 This is ..... house.  
A Bens'            B Ben            C Ben's
- 28 My dad ..... books.  
A reads often            B often reads  
C doesn't read often
- 29 She ..... late for work.  
A always is            B are always  
C is always
- 30 He ..... reading books but he loves watching films.  
A didn't like            B doesn't like  
C not likes
- 31 She ..... jogging in the morning.  
A always goes            B is always going  
C always is going
- 32 They ..... an exam in two hours.  
A sit            B are sitting            C sits
- 33 ..... accordion is a difficult instrument.  
A -            B An            C The
- 34 He has piano lessons ..... Saturdays.  
A on            B at            C in
- 35 Sue starts work ..... 8 o'clock.  
A on            B at            C in
- 36 His favourite song is playing ..... .  
A every day            B last night  
C at the moment
- 37 ..... he ..... fair hair when he was young?  
A Does ... have            B Did ... have  
C Is ... having
- 38 ..... you and Tom at the cinema last night?  
A Were            B Did            C Was
- 39 She can't talk now. She ..... dinner.  
A cooked            B is cooking            C cooks
- 40 When did you ..... that jacket?  
A buying            B bought            C buy