

Upper Beginner

These are the topics available for level 200.



- [Grammar](#)

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Adjectives and Adverbs

Introduction

Adjectives such as *beautiful*, *nice*, and *red* describe **nouns**. Adverbs such as *quickly*, *badly*, or *warmly* describe **verbs**. This page will explain the differences between them, and show you how to make adverbs from adjectives.

1. Using adjectives and adverbs

Adjective	Adverb	Example
beautiful		Ann is beautiful.
	beautifully	Ann sings beautifully.
warm		The room is warm.
	warmly	Joe smiles warmly.
slow		The car is slow.
	slowly	Ann drives slowly.

2. Making adverbs from adjectives

Adverbs are usually made from adjectives by adding **-LY**. These are the rules:

Adjective ending in...	How to make the adverb	Examples
y	Change Y to I and add -LY	heavy - heavily happy - happily lazy - lazily
[anything else]	Just add -LY	warm - warmly nice - nicely loud - loudly

There are some important exceptions:

Adjective	Adverb
good	well
late	late ("Lately" means recently. It is not the adverb from "late".)
early	early
fast	fast
hard	hard ("Hardly" means not much. It is not the adverb from "hard".)

When you are sure that you understand the lesson, you can continue with the exercise.

Adjective or Adverb?

Complete the sentences.

What's the best word to complete the sentence?

1. Bill understands Spanish _____.
1. good
 2. well



2. Sharon usually sings _____.
1. sad
 2. sadly



3. The orchestra sounds _____.
1. bad
 2. badly



4. Sue learned Japanese _____.
1. quickly
 2. quick



5. The women work _____.
1. hardly
 2. hard



6. I like to live in a _____ house.
1. cleanly
 2. clean



7. The eagle sees _____.
1. good
 2. well



8. Betty is _____.
1. beautiful
 2. beautifully





9. Adriana ran _____.

1. fastly
2. fast



10. Mei Li dresses _____.

1. beautifully
2. beautiful



11. Eric likes to sing _____ songs.

1. sad
2. sadly



12. Ann walks _____.

1. heavily
2. heavy



13. Jin speaks Chinese _____.

1. fluent
2. fluently



14. The soup tastes _____.

1. well
2. good



15. David arrived _____.

1. lately
2. late



Comparatives and Superlatives of Adjectives

Introduction

Comparatives and *Superlatives* are special forms of adjectives. They are used to compare two or more things. Generally, comparatives are formed using **-er** and superlatives are formed using **-est**. This page will explain the rules for forming regular comparatives and superlatives, and also show some basic ways of using them.

Forming comparatives and superlatives

How these forms are created depends on how many *syllables* there are in the adjective. *Syllables* are like “sound beats”. For instance, “sing” contains one syllable, but “singing” contains two — *sing* and *ing*. Here are the rules.

Adjective form	Comparative	Superlative
Only one syllable, ending in E. Examples: <i>wide, fine, cute</i>	Add -R: <i>wider, finer, cuter</i>	Add -ST: <i>widest, finest, cutest</i>
Only one syllable, with one vowel and one consonant at the end. Examples: <i>hot, big, fat</i>	Double the consonant, and add -ER: <i>hotter, bigger, fatter</i>	Double the consonant, and add -EST: <i>hottest, biggest, fattest</i>
Only one syllable, with more than one vowel or more than one consonant at the end. Examples: <i>light, neat, fast</i>	Add -ER: <i>lighter, neater, faster</i>	Add -EST: <i>lightest, neatest, fastest</i>
Two syllables, ending in Y. Examples: <i>happy, silly, lonely</i>	Change Y to I, then add -ER: <i>happier, sillier, lonelier</i>	Change Y to I, then add -EST: <i>happiest, silliest, loneliest</i>
Two syllables or more, not ending in Y. Examples: <i>modern, interesting, beautiful</i>	Use MORE before the adjective: <i>more modern, more interesting, more beautiful</i>	Use MOST before the adjective: <i>most modern, most interesting, most beautiful</i>

How to use comparatives and superlatives

Comparatives are used to compare two things. You can use sentences with THAN, or you can use a conjunction like BUT. Examples:

Comparatives

- *Jiro is taller than Yukio.*
- *Yukio is tall, but Jiro is taller.*

Superlatives are used to compare more than two things. Superlative sentences usually use THE, because there is only one superlative. Examples:

Superlatives

- *Masami is the tallest in the class.*
- *Yukio is tall, and Jiro is taller, but Masami is the tallest.*

When you are sure that you understand the lesson, you can continue with the exercise.

Comparatives and Superlatives Exercise

Choose the correct form for each word.

1. What is the comparative of "hot"?
 1. hotter
 2. hotter
 3. hottest
 4. hottest
2. What is the superlative of "deep"?
 1. deeper
 2. deeper
 3. deepest
 4. deepest
3. What is the comparative of "lively"?
 1. livelier
 2. more livelier
 3. livelier
 4. more livelier
4. What is the comparative of "sad"?
 1. sader
 2. sadder
 3. sader
 4. sadder
5. What is the superlative of "ugly"?
 1. uglier
 2. ugliest
 3. ugliest
 4. ugliest
6. What is the superlative of "small"?
 1. smaller
 2. smaller
 3. smallest
 4. smallest
7. What is the superlative of "unpleasant"?
 1. unpleasant
 2. most unpleasant
 3. more unpleasant
 4. unpleasantest
8. What is the comparative of "destructive"?
 1. destructiver
 2. more destructive
 3. destructivier
 4. more destructiver
9. What is the superlative of "soft"?
 1. softest
 2. softiest
 3. softtest
 4. most soft
10. What is the comparative of "heat"?
 1. heater
 2. heater
 3. heatier
 4. hetter
 5. none of these



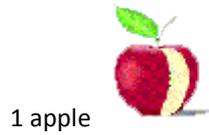
Count and Non-Count Nouns

This lesson and the exercise use food vocabulary. Learn food vocabulary in the [Level 200 Vocabulary topics](#).

Countable Nouns

Some words take an 's' when you talk about more than one. These words are called **count** or **countable** nouns.

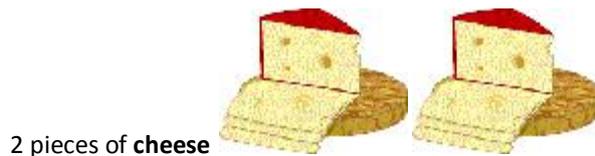
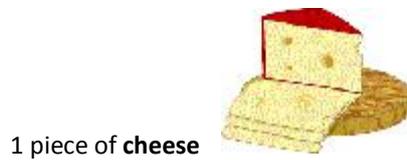
Example



Uncountable Nouns

Other words do **not** take an 's' when you talk about more than one. These words are called **non-count** or **uncountable** nouns.

Example



The word "**food**" is a non-count noun.

Example

I like **food**.

I like some **food** for breakfast.

I like a lot of **food** for dinner.

When you are sure that you understand the lesson, you can continue with the exercise.

Count and Non-Count Nouns Exercise

Is the word a count noun or a non-count noun?

Click on the correct answer.

1. Butter
 1. Non-Count Noun
 2. Count Noun
2. Cherry
 1. Non-Count Noun
 2. Count Noun
3. Watermelon
 1. Non-Count Noun
 2. Count Noun
4. Fish
 1. Non-Count Noun
 2. Count Noun
5. Cheese
 1. Count Noun
 2. Non-Count Noun
6. Cookie
 1. Non-Count Noun
 2. Count Noun
7. Peach
 1. Count Noun
 2. Non-Count Noun
8. Apple
 1. Non-Count Noun
 2. Count Noun
9. Food
 1. Count Noun
 2. Non-Count Noun
10. Carrot
 1. Non-Count Noun
 2. Count Noun



Determiners: Some and Any

Introduction

This page introduces the determiners **some** and **any**.

Both **some** and **any** can be used with count nouns (such as “book”) and non-count nouns (such as “water”). This table shows one difference between them. There are more differences which you will learn about later in your course.

Examples

Some is used in positive statements. John gave me some money.
We bought some candies.

Examples

Any is used in negative statements. She didn't have any money.
I couldn't find any books.

When you are sure that you understand the lesson, you can continue with the exercise.

Determiners: Some and Any

Type the correct determiner in each gap.

Which determiner completes the sentence: "some" or "any"?

- 1) Vicky has candies.
 - 2) Kat doesn't have money.
 - 3) Marina will give us information.
 - 4) There is milk in the fridge.
 - 5) There isn't beer.
 - 6) There aren't boys in my family.
 - 7) Jose won't give me help.
 - 8) Hannah shouldn't smoke cigarettes.
 - 9) Sue must do homework tonight.
 - 10) My brother can't speak Chinese.
 - 11) My sister can speak Spanish.
 - 12) I can't speak Chinese or Spanish.
 - 13) I must study second languages.
 - 14) Luis isn't smarter than Jane.
 - 15) Anahita should eat fresh fruit.
-



"It" and "There"

Introduction

It and **there** are used as subjects when there is no natural subject in a sentence.

Using "it"

"It" is used to identify something or someone.

Example Question	Example Answer
"Who is it ?"	" It's me."
"What is it ?"	" It's a cat."

"It" is also used to talk about the weather, about time, and about distance.

When to use "it"	Example Question	Example Answer
Talking about weather	"What's it like outside?"	" It's sunny."
Talking about time	"What time is it ?"	" It's two o'clock."
Talking about distances	"How far is it to Banff?"	" It's 900 kilometers?"

Using "there"

"There" is used to say that something exists in a particular place.

When to use "there"	Example Sentence
Singular	There is a party tonight.
Plural	There are lots of people at the party.
Singular question	Is there a party tonight?
Plural question	Are there many people at the party?

When you are sure that you understand the lesson, you can continue with the exercise.

"It" and "There"

Type all the correct answers in the gaps. Complete the sentences using "there" or "it" and the verb "to be". Use words such as, "there is", "it is", "is there", "is it", "there was", "it was", and "was it".

If you see a star before the number, the sentence is a question. Type all your answers and click on "Check answers". Use capital letters at the beginning of the sentence. If you need help, you can click on "Show a letter" to get a free letter.

1. many Japanese students in our class.
2. a long way from UVic to downtown.
3. cold today.
4. a beautiful flower in the garden.
5. raining today.
- *6. many people in your family?
- *7. a test last week?
8. a car outside. red.
- *9. nice yesterday?
10. expensive to shop at the Bay.

11. a storm coming.

12. cloudy today.



Making Questions

Introduction

There are many different ways to form questions. We will look at two kinds of questions. One is called a **yes / no question** and the other is called a **WH- question**.

Yes / No Questions

A **yes / no** question is a question that can be answered with **yes** or **no**. Yes / no questions can be formed using the words **is / are** or **do / does**.

The most common type of yes / no question is formed by putting a **to be** verb (for example, **is** or **are**) at the beginning of a question.

Making a Question with a "To Be" Verb

Example (be-verb: **IS**)

Statement	Question	Answers
Elliot is reading a book.	Is Elliot reading a book?	Yes, he is . No, he isn't .

Example (be-verb: **ARE**)

Statement	Question	Answers
They are from Greece.	Are they from Greece?	Yes, they are . No, they are not .

Another common type of yes / no question is formed by adding **do** or **does** at the beginning of a sentence.

The form of this kind of yes / no question is: Do / Does + subject +verb*

Making a Question with "Do" or "Does"

Statement	Question	Answers
I eat breakfast at 7 a.m.	Do you eat breakfast at 7 a.m.?	Yes, I do . No, I don't .
I listen to music.	Do you listen to music?	Yes, I do .

Statement	Question	Answers
		No, I don't .
He doesn't work on the computer.	Does he work* on the computer?	Yes, he does . No, he doesn't .
We don't watch TV every night.	Do we watch TV every night?	Yes, we do . No, we don't .
I start work at 8 p.m.	Do you start work at 8 p.m.?	Yes, I do . No, I don't .
It takes* an hour to walk home.	Does it take an hour to walk home?	Yes, it does . No, it doesn't .

* Note that the **-s** is never added to the verb when using **do / does** in a question.

WH- Questions

Questions can ask for information. You ask for information using **WH- question** words (who, what, where, how, whose, why, and when).

WH- questions have a different structure when "who" is the subject.

Information Questions

Question	WH- Word	Structure	Answer
Where is the hotel?	Where Information about place	question word + auxiliary verb + subject	The hotel is on Douglas Street.
What is your name?	What Information about things	question word + auxiliary verb + subject	My name is Rachael.
Why is the road wet?	Why Information about the reason for something	question word + auxiliary verb + subject	The road is wet because it was just raining.
When do you get up?	When Information about time	question word + auxiliary verb + subject (+ verb)	I get up at 7:00 every morning.
How do you drink your coffee?	How Information about the manner or way in which something is done	question word + auxiliary verb + subject (+ verb)	I drink my coffee with milk and sugar.
Who lives in that house?	Who (subject) Information about people	question word + verb	My mother lives in that house.
Whose pen is this?	Whose Information about	question word + subject +	That is Camilla's pen.

Question	WH- Word	Structure	Answer
	possession (who the owner is)	verb	

When you are sure that you understand the lesson, you can continue with the exercises.

Making Questions 1

Make YES/NO questions or WH- questions from each sentence. For WH- questions, make a question which asks about the bold words.

Type your answer in the box and then click on "Check".



1. **The men** like cats. (yes/no)



2. **The men** like cats. (WH)

Making Questions 2

Make YES/NO questions or WH- questions from each sentence. For WH- questions, make a question which asks about the bold words.

Type your answer in the box and then click on "Check".



1. **Sue** likes cats. (yes/no)



2. **Sue** likes cats. (WH)

Making Questions 3

Make YES/NO questions or WH- questions from each sentence. For WH- questions, make a question which asks about the bold words.

Type your answer in the box and then click on "Check".



1. Ann hates **Bill**. (yes/no)



2. Ann hates **Bill**.(WH)

Making Questions 4

Make YES/NO questions or WH- questions from each sentence. For WH- questions, make a question which asks about the bold words.

Type your answer in the box and then click on "Check".



1. Ana went to Nanaimo **last weekend**. (yes/no)



2. Ana went to Nanaimo **last weekend**. (WH)

Making Questions 5

Make YES/NO questions or WH- questions from each sentence. For WH- questions, make a question which asks about the bold words.

Type your answer in the box and then click on "Check".

1.  Jose is **in the library**. (yes/no)

2.  Jose is **in the library**. (WH)

Making Questions 6

Make YES/NO questions or WH- questions from each sentence. For WH- questions, make a question which asks about the bold words.

Type your answer in the box and then click on "Check".

1.  Maria sings **loudly**. (yes/no)

2.  Maria sings **loudly**. (WH)

Making Questions 7

Make YES/NO questions or WH- questions from each sentence. For WH- questions, make a question which asks about the bold words.

Type your answer in the box and then click on "Check".

1.  David will make **pizza** tonight. (yes/no)

2.  David will make **pizza** tonight. (WH)

Making Questions 8

Make YES/NO questions or WH- questions from each sentence. For WH- questions, make a question which asks about the bold words.

Type your answer in the box and then click on "Check".

1.  Sandy cooks **well**. (yes/no)

2.  Sandy cooks **well**. (WH)

Making Questions 9

Make YES/NO questions or WH- questions from each sentence. For WH- questions, make a question which asks about the bold words.

Type your answer in the box and then click on "Check".

1.  **Emily** drove to school yesterday. (yes/no)



2. **Emily** drove to school yesterday. (WH)

Making Questions 10

Make YES/NO questions or WH- questions from each sentence. For WH- questions, make a question which asks about the bold words.

Type your answer in the box and then click on "Check".



1. Heather will marry Adam **because he's rich**. (yes/no)



2. Heather will marry Adam **because he's rich**. (WH)

Making Questions 11

Make YES/NO questions or WH- questions from each sentence. For WH- questions, make a question which asks about the bold words.

Type your answer in the box and then click on "Check".



1. Linda likes **pizza**. (yes/no)

2.



Linda likes **pizza**. (WH)

aking Questions 12

Make YES/NO questions or WH- questions from each sentence. For WH- questions, make a question which asks about the bold words.

Type your answer in the box and then click on "Check".



1. _____ Indira likes **to dance**. (yes/no)



2. _____ Indira likes **to dance**. (WH)

aking Questions 13

Make YES/NO questions or WH- questions from each sentence. For WH- questions, make a question which asks about the bold words.

Type your answer in the box and then click on "Check".



1. Maria enjoys **singing**. (yes/no)



2. Maria enjoys **singing**. (WH)

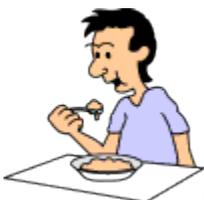
Making Questions 14

Make YES/NO questions or WH- questions from each sentence. For WH- questions, make a question which asks about the bold words.

Type your answer in the box and then click on "Check".



1. Ed ate **all the food**. (yes/no)



2. Ed ate **all the food**. (WH)



Prepositions

Introduction

This page shows you how to use the prepositions *on*, *in*, and *at* in different contexts.

1. Transportation

Preposition	Example Nouns	Example Sentences
in	car, truck	I went to Vancouver in my car.
on	bus, train, ship, plane, bicycle	I went downtown on the bus. We travelled to Toronto on the train.

2. Time

Preposition	Example Nouns	Example Sentences
in	January, February, March 1987, 1988, 1989 two minutes, three days	She arrived in February. I was born in 1988. I'll be home in three days.
on	Wednesday, Thursday weekend	The party is on Thursday. He left on the weekend.
at	7:00, 7:30, 8 o'clock, noon	I'll call you at 7.30.

3. Communications

Preposition	Example Nouns	Example Sentences
on	telephone Internet radio, television	I spoke to him on the telephone yesterday. I read about it on the Internet. I heard the news on the radio.

4. Where prepositions are NOT used

We don't use prepositions with certain words and phrases:

NO Preposition Words and Phrases	Example Sentences
home	Sally went home.
this morning	I met my classmates this morning.
this afternoon	We will arrive this afternoon.
every week	We have an exam every week.
last Tuesday	Neil did his laundry last Tuesday.
next year	Betty will return next year.

When you are sure that you understand the lesson, you can continue with the exercise.

Prepositions Exercise

Type the correct answers in the gaps.

Put the correct preposition into each space. If you think there should be **no** preposition, type an underline (_). Every time you click on Check, there is a penalty if the answer is not completely correct. Hints lower your score too.

- 1) Sonia gets a bus the morning to go to school.
- 2) Many tourists shop Government Street the summer.
- 3) Sue will be the classroom 8:30.
- 4) Ann went home this morning.
- 5) Alphonse went skiing 1997.
- 6) Jennifer watches a movie television every Tuesday.
- 7) I met Donna a party Friday night.
- 8) When the children are bed, let's listen music the radio.
- 9) I will go Nova Scotia March 2005.
- 10) She will call you two weeks.
- 11) The cat stayed the house last night.
- 12) I went out dinner the weekend.