

GRAMMAR REFERENCE SECTION

Grammar Box 1 - Adjectives: Order

When we use more than one adjective to describe a noun, we write these adjectives in a certain order, depending on what kind of adjectives they are. The table shows how we order different types of adjective.

Opinion or quality	Size	Age	Shape	Colour	Nationality	Material	Purpose	Noun
expensive	small				German		racing	car
pretty		antique				gold		mirror
	tiny		round	yellow				flowers
	long			blonde				hair
	medium		square				checker	board
	little			blue		cardboard	doll	house
strong		young			American		baseball	player
tasty					Italian			food
noisy		4-year-old		white	Siamese			cat

Here are some example sentences with adjectives in the correct order:

- a. An expensive small German racing car
- b. A pretty antique gold mirror
- c. Some tiny round yellow flowers
- d. Long blonde hair
- e. A medium square checker board
- f. A little blue cardboard doll house
- g. A strong young American baseball player
- h. Some tasty Italian food
- i. A noisy 4-year-old white Siamese cat

Extra Practice

Exercise 1

Find 10 adjectives from any of the texts in this book and decide which category they belong to.

Exercise 2

Substitute some of the adjectives in the example sentences in Grammar Box 1 with other adjectives. Then check with your teacher that you have the adjectives in the correct order in your sentence.

Exercise 3

Choose the best answer to complete the sentences.

- 1) Susan has car.
a) an old blue b) a blue old c) an blue old
- 2) There is a vase on the table.
a) cheap plastic old b) plastic cheap c) cheap plastic
- 3) Jillian is student.
a) a Chinese young interesting b) an interesting young Chinese
c) an Chinese interesting
- 4) She is my friend.
a) old new b) old dear c) dear old
- 5) There are pictures in this magazine.
a) interesting computer-generated new
b) interesting new computer-generated
c) computer-generated interesting new
- 6) Lara goes to a temple every week.
a) historic Japanese beautiful b) Japanese beautiful historic
c) beautiful historic Japanese
- 7) The teacher taught many things to the students.
a) factual interesting b) interesting factual c) new factual interesting
- 8) I like to listen to music after dinner.
a) soft relaxing orchestra b) relaxing orchestra soft
c) orchestra soft relaxing

Grammar Box 2 - Comparison of Adjectives

Adjectives are compared using one of these grammatical forms:

Comparative form:

adjective + er **OR** more + adjective

Examples:

East Timor is **hotter** than Portugal. Economic migration is **more prevalent** in poorer countries.

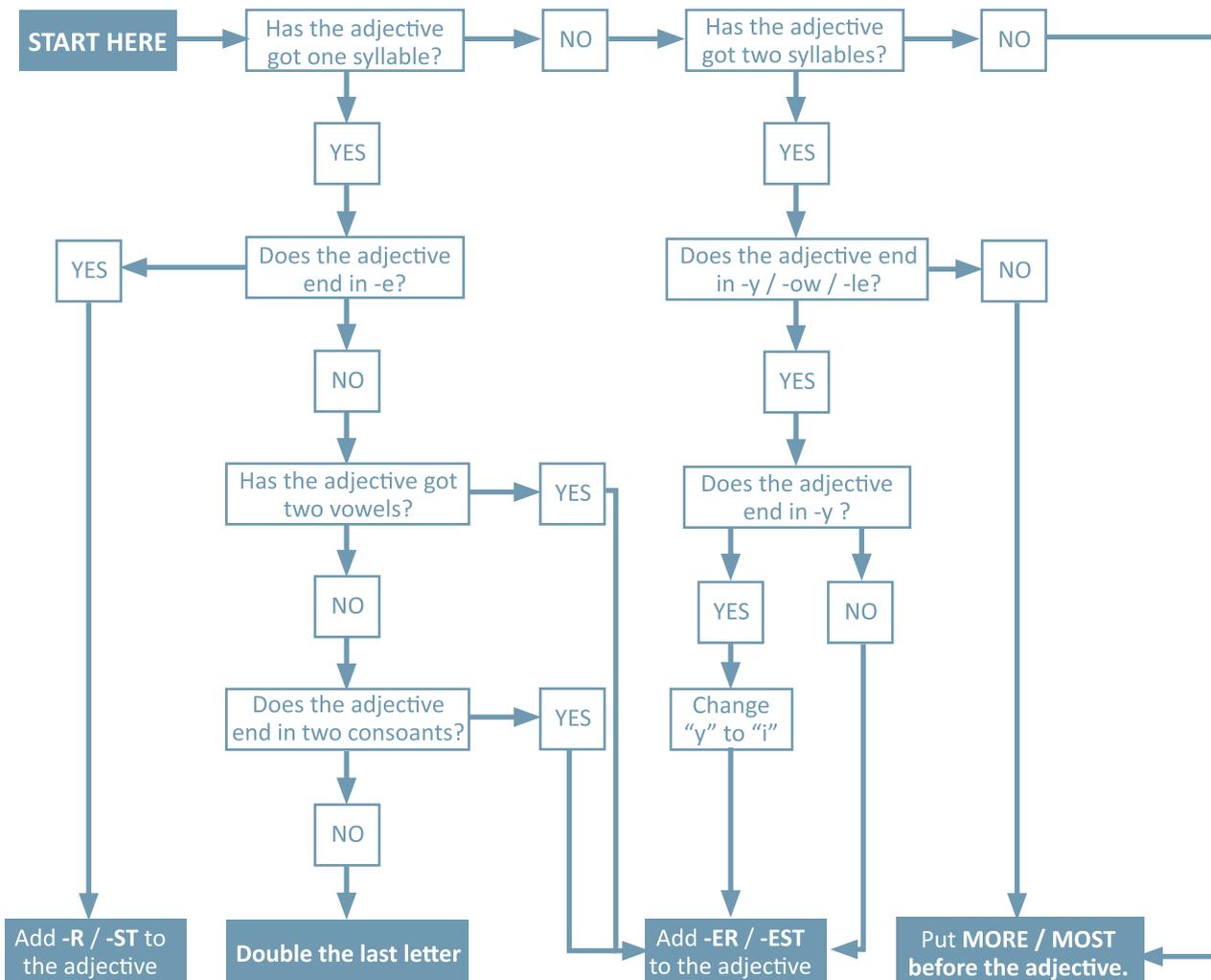
Superlative form:

adjective + est **OR** most + adjective

Examples:

South Sudan is the **newest** country in the world. Australia is the **most popular** destination for social migrants

Use this diagram to help you choose which of the forms to use:



Some adjectives form irregular comparatives and superlatives:

adjective	comparative	superlative
good	better	best
bad	worse	worst
much	more	most
many	more	most
little	less	least
little	smaller	smallest
far (distance)	farther	farthest
far (more of something)	further	furthest

Extra Practice

Exercise 1

Write the comparative and superlative forms of these adjectives:

heavy	tight	little	lazy	wide
cheap	exciting	clever	good	attractive
fine	strong	delicious	nice	bad
important	many	intelligent	deep	fat
high	tough	far	bright	slow

Exercise 2

Choose three people, three places, three favourite objects and three sports. Write sentences comparing these.

Grammar Box 3 - Formation of Adverbs

In general, adverbs are formed like this: adjective + -ly

Examples:
slow – slowly;
quiet - quietly

There are some special spelling rules for forming adverbs

rule	example
silent e is dropped in true, due, whole	true → truly
y becomes i	happy → happily
le after a consonant is dropped	sensible → sensibly
after ll only add y	full → fully
Adjectives ending in -ic: adjective + -ally	fantastic → fantastically
Adjectives ending in -ly: use 'in a ... way / manner'	friendly → in a friendly way/ manner

Exceptions

adjective	adverb (meaning)	adverb (meaning)
good	well	
difficult	with difficulty	
public	publicly	
deep	deep (place)	deeply (feeling)
direct	direct	directly (=soon)
hard	hard	hardly (=seldom)
high	high (place)	highly (figurative)
late	late	lately (=recently)
most	most	mostly (=usually)
near	near	nearly (=almost)
pretty	pretty (=rather)	prettily
short	short	shortly (=soon)

Extra Practice

Exercise 1

What are the adverbs for these adjectives:

accidental	angry	bad	busy	calm
careful	famous	fast	general	responsible
extreme	good	stupid	static	sensitive

Grammar Box 4 - Comparison of Adverbs

One syllable adverbs and adverbs that have the same form as the adjectives are compared using -er/-est

Examples:

hard - harder - (the) hardest

fast - faster - (the) fastest

early - earlier - (the) earliest

Adverbs ending in -ly are usually compared using more/most

Examples:

carefully - more carefully - (the) most carefully

slowly - more slowly - (the) most slowly

Irregular Adverbs

adverb	comparative	superlative
well	better	best
badly	worse	worst
much	more	most
little	less	least
late	later	last