

English A2 · Comparatives and superlatives

Elementary English for Chinese speakers; classroom examples, not official exam items.

The fight and the trophy

The comparative is a fight between two; the superlative is a trophy ceremony.
English changes the adjective itself.

-er or more

Adjective	The rule	Example
short — one syllable	add -er	tall → taller, fast → faster
ends in -y	y → ier	happy → happier
short vowel + consonant	double the consonant	big → bigger, hot → hotter
long — two or more syllables	more + adjective	more beautiful, more expensive

Use the evidence

Then than: I am taller than my brother. The fight needs an opponent.

Your turn: pick the referee

Your turn

My bag is ____ (heavy) than yours.

- A. more heavy
- B. heavyer
- C. heavier
- D. heavier as

The trophy ceremony

Adjective	The rule	Example
short	the + -est	the tallest, the fastest
-y	the + y → iest	the happiest
long	the most + adjective	the most beautiful
rebels	good → best · bad → worst · far → furthest	the best noodles in the city

Use the evidence

The group follows with in or of: the tallest in the class.

Your turn: the ceremony

Your turn

He is ____ (tall) boy in the class.

- A. tallest
- B. the tallest
- C. the most tall
- D. more tall

Strength words

stronger

much taller · far better

This test was much worse.

softer

a little older · a bit cheaper

My phone is a bit slower.

Your turn: the volume dial

Your turn

This one is ____ better than that one.

- A. very
- B. much
- C. more
- D. most

The double-mark trap

already means comparison

So more taller than sneaks in. English marks once: taller than.

And the order flips: → I am taller than my brother.

Say it aloud

Compare honestly: My phone is older than yours, and slower.



Add mystery: and somehow more expensive to repair.



Crown a day: Monday is the longest day of the week.



Defend a truth: The best noodles in this city are near the school.

Check yourself

- My bag is heavier than yours — the -y dance, then than.
- the most beautiful — a long adjective at the ceremony.
- faster, never more faster — one referee.
- This test was worse than the last — a rebel ladder.