Comparison of Adjectives – Steigerung der Adjektive

**1. GEBRAUCH**

John is **as tall as** Bill. – John ist **so groß wie** Bill.  
John is **taller than** Bill. – John ist **größer als** Bill.  
John is **the tallest** boy in his class. – John ist **der größte** Junge in seiner Klasse.

**2. BILDUNG**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Einsilbige Adjektive + Adjektive auf –y**  *(a) Konsonant nach kurzem, betontem Vokal wird verdoppelt: big -> bigger*  *(b) y am Wortende -> i – pretty -> prettier* | | | |
|  |  | **Grundform + er** | **Grundform + est** |
| tall | tall-er | tall-est |
| big | big**g**-er | big**g**-est |
| pretty | prett**i**-er | prett**i**-est |
| **Mehrsilbige Adjektive** | | | |
|  |  | **more + Grundform** | **most + Grundform** |
| dangerous | more dangerous | most dangerous |
| beautiful | more beautiful | most beautiful |
| **Unregelmäßige Adjektive** | | | |
| *gut* | good | better | best |
| *schlecht* | bad | worse | worst |
| *viel* | many / much | more | most |
| *wenig* | little | less | least |
| *klein* | little | smaller | smallest |

**EXERCISE 1** Steigere diese Adjektive. Beachte dabei die Regeln:

(a) Einsilbige Adjektive (nice) und zweisilbige Adjektive, die auf –y enden (pretty) steigert man mit –er und –est.   
(b) Rechtschreibregel: Vor –er und –est wird ein y zu i (**pretty -> prettier**). Ein Konsonant nach einem kurzen, betonten Vokal wird verdoppelt (**big -> bigger**) .  
(c) Adjektive mit mehr als einer Silbe steigert man mit *more* und *most*.   
(d) good und bad sind unregelmäßig: **good – better – best**, **bad – worse – worst**.

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| **Grundform** | **Komparativ** | **Superlativ** |
| small | *smaller* | *the smallest* |
| beautiful | *more beautiful* | *the most beautiful* |
| dark |  |  |
| handsome |  |  |
| healthy |  |  |
| careful |  |  |
| cool |  |  |
| interesting |  |  |
| fast |  |  |
| happy |  |  |
| intelligent |  |  |
| short |  |  |
| stupid |  |  |
| silly |  |  |
| fit |  |  |
| expensive |  |  |
| long |  |  |
| good |  |  |
| friendly |  |  |
| normal |  |  |
| ordinary |  |  |
| fascinating |  |  |
| hungry |  |  |
| slim |  |  |
| patient |  |  |
| inviting |  |  |
| easy |  |  |
| thin |  |  |
| boring |  |  |
| fat |  |  |
| bad |  |  |
| delicious |  |  |
| awesome |  |  |
| enormous |  |  |
| early |  |  |
| fabulous |  |  |

**EXERCISE 2** In the text, underline all adjectives and fill in the table! Then complete the table with the missing forms.

Peter is my best friend. He is the smartest boy in my class, so he gets excellent marks in all subjects. However, he is really bad at sports. He is a terrible football player. When we run in PE, he is always the slowest. Peter has a nice girlfriend, Jenny. She is the prettiest girl at our school, and she is also cooler than the other girls.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Grundform** | **Komparativ** | **Superlativ** |
|  |  | best |
|  |  |  |
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**EXERCISE 3a** Fill in the adjective that fits best in the comparative form: ~~big~~ – dangerous – fast – small – intelligent

a) Elephants are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_*bigger*\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ than zebras.   
b) Lions are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ than horses.   
c) Horses are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ than cows.  
d) Mice are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ than cats.   
e) Monkeys are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ than cats.

**EXERCISE 3b** Now write some sentences about animals yourself.

|  |
| --- |
| rabbit – snake – tiger – bird – hamster – fly – budgie – pig – fox … |
| cute – small – dangerous – tiny – hungry – big – clever … |

**EXERCISE 4a** Fill in the adjectives that fit best. Use the superlative form.  
~~big~~ – important – fast – intelligent – beautiful – dangerous

a) Whales are \_\_\_*the biggest\_\_\_* animals in the world.   
b) Cheetas (Geparden) are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ animals.  
c) Monkeys, dolphins and parrots are some of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ animals in the world.   
d) Bears and wolves are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ animals in Europe.   
e) In my opinion, peacocks (Pfauen) are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ birds.   
f) Chickens are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ farm animals.

**EXERCISE 4b** Complete the sentences with your own ideas!

a) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is / are the most delicious food I have tried.   
b) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is the best actor I know.  
c) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is the greatest book I have read.   
d) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is the most interesting school subject.   
e) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is the most fantastic film I have watched.

**EXERCISE 5** Fill in the right form: positive (big) – comparative (bigger) – superlative (the biggest).

a) **intelligent**: Nick is an \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ boy, but Ken is even \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ than him. Marcus is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ boy in their class.   
b) **small**: Susan is a very \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ girl, but her little sister Sarah is even \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ than her. And their cousin Sandy is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ girl in the family.   
c) **tidy**: My room is always very \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, but my brother’s room is even \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ than mine. My mum’s room is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ room in our house.

**EXERCISE 6** Write full sentences like in exercise 2. Write on an extra sheet of paper.

a) tall man: Michael – Andrew – Steve  
*Michael is a tall man, but Andrew is taller than him. Steve is the tallest.*b) boring subject: Geography – Math – English   
c) nice teacher: Miss Hunt – Mr. Miller – Mr. Parker   
d) healthy food: bananas – apples – carrots   
e) interesting sport: basketball – rugby – football   
f) good actor: Brad Pitt – Angelina Jolie – Johnny Depp

**EXERCISE 4** Translate the sentences into English! Please write on an extra sheet of paper.

a) Meine Tante ist größer als mein Onkel.   
b) Hunde sind intelligenter als Kühe.   
c) Herr Smith ist der netteste Lehrer an unserer Schule.   
d) Jane ist die intelligenteste Schülerin in meiner Klasse.   
e) Tom ist kleiner als sein Bruder.   
f) Ich bin so groß wie du.   
g) Er ist der beste Spieler im Team.   
h) Deine Erkältung (*cold*) ist schlimmer als gestern.   
i) Caroline ist das schönste Mädchen in der Stadt.   
j) Er ist dümmer als ich.   
k) Unser Auto ist langsamer als Peters Auto.   
l) Das ist die heißeste Suppe, die ich je gegessen habe.   
m) Sein letzter Film war so gut wie der erste.   
  
**EXERCISE 5** Fill in the right form of the verb in brackets.

a) This summer was a lot \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (cold) than the last one. I hope the next summer will be \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (warm) than this one!  
b) This is the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (good) chocolate cake I’ve ever tried. Can you give me the recipe? – Yes, of course. I found it in this \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (old) cookbook.   
c) Let’s buy this watch. It is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (cheap) than the others. – Yes, it is, but the others look much \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (nice). And this one is not much \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (expensive) than that one; it only costs 5 dollars more.   
d) There were three dogs in our garden. One was very \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (small). The other one was a little \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (big) than the first one. The last one was as \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (big) as the second dog.   
e) We have cleaned the whole house. The kitchen is now as \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (clean) as the bathroom. But the living room is a bit \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (clean) than my brother’s room because he is so untidy. My room is the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (clean) of all!

Lösungen

**EXERCISE 1**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Grundform** | **Komparativ** | **Superlativ** |
| small | *smaller* | *the smallest* |
| beautiful | *more beautiful* | *the most beautiful* |
| dark | darker | the darkest |
| handsome | more handsome | the most handsome |
| healthy | healthier | the healthiest |
| careful | more careful | the most careful |
| cool | cooler | the coolest |
| interesting | more interesting | the most interesting |
| fast | faster | the fastest |
| happy | happier | the happiest |
| intelligent | more intelligent | the most intelligent |
| short | shorter | the shortest |
| stupid | more stupid | the most stupid |
| silly | sillier | the silliest |
| fit | fitter | the fittest |
| expensive | more expensive | the most expensive |
| long | longer | the longest |
| good | better | the best |
| friendly | friendlier | the friendliest |
| normal | more normal | the most normal |
| ordinary | more ordinary | the most ordinary |
| fascinating | more fascinating | the most fascinating |
| hungry | hungrier | the hungriest |
| slim | slimmer | the slimmest |
| patient | more patient | the most patient |
| inviting | more inviting | the most inviting |
| easy | easier | the easiest |
| thin | thinner | the thinnest |
| boring | more boring | the most boring |
| fat | fatter | the fattest |
| bad | worse | the worst |
| delicious | more delicious | the most delicious |
| awesome | more awesome | the most awesome |
| enormous | more enormous | the most enormous |
| early | earlier | the earliest |
| fabulous | more fabulous | the most fabulous |

**EXERCISE 2** Peter is my best friend. He is the smartest boy in my class, so he gets excellent marks in all subjects. However, he is really bad at sports. He is a terrible football player. When we run in PE, he is always the slowest. Peter has a nice girlfriend, Jenny. She is the prettiest girl at our school, and she is also cooler than the other girls.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Grundform** | **Komparativ** | **Superlativ** |
| good | better | best |
| smart | smarter | smartest |
| excellent | more excellent | most excellent |
| bad | worse | worst |
| terrible | more terrible | most terrible |
| slow | slower | slowest |
| nice | nicer | nicest |
| pretty | prettier | prettiest |
| cool | cooler | coolest |

**EXERCISE 3a** b) Lions are **more dangerous** than horses.   
c) Horses are **faster** than cows.  
d) Mice are **smaller** than cats.   
e) Monkeys are **more intelligent** than cats.

**EXERCISE 4a** b) Cheetas (Geparden) are **the fastest** animals.  
c) Monkeys, dolphins and parrots are some of the **most intelligent** animals in the world.   
d) Bears and wolves are **the most dangerous** animals in Europe.   
e) In my opinion, peacocks (Pfauen) are **the most beautiful** birds.   
f) Chickens are **the most important** farm animals.

**EXERCISE 5** a) **intelligent**: Nick is an **intelligent** boy, but Ken is even **more intelligent** than him. Marcus is **the most intelligent** boy in their class.   
b) **small**: Susan is a very **small** girl, but her little sister Sarah is even **smaller** than her. And their cousin Sandy is **the smallest** girl in the family.   
c) **tidy**: My room is always very **tidy,** but my brother’s room is even **tidier** than mine. My mum’s room is **the tidiest** room in our house.

**EXERCISE 6** Beispiellösungen:  
b) boring subject: Geography – Math – English   
Geography is a boring subject. Math is even more boring. And English is the most boring subject.  
c) nice teacher: Miss Hunt – Mr. Miller – Mr. Parker   
Miss Hunt is nice, but Mr Miller is nicer. Mr. Parker is the nicest teacher at our school.  
d) healthy food: bananas – apples – carrots   
Bananas are healthy. Apples are healthier. Carrots are the healthiest.   
e) interesting sport: basketball – rugby – football   
Basketball is interesting. Rugby is more interesting. Football is the most interesting sport.  
f) good actor: Brad Pitt – Angelina Jolie – Johnny Depp  
Brad Pitt is a good actor, but Angelina Jolie is better, and Johnny Depp is the best.

**EXERCISE 7** Translate the sentences into English! Please write on an extra sheet of paper.

a) My aunt is taller than my uncle.   
b) Dogs are more intelligent than cows.   
c) Mr Smith is the nicest teacher a tour school.   
d) Jane ist he most intelligent pupil in my class.   
e) Tom is smaller than his brother.   
f) I’m as tall as you.   
g) He is the best player in the team.   
h) Your cold is worse than yesterday.   
i) Caroline is the prettiest girl in town.   
j) He is more stupid (dumber) than me.   
k) Our car is slower than Pete’s (car).   
l) This is the hottest soup I’ve ever eaten.   
m) His last film was as good as the first.   
  
**EXERCISE 8** a) This summer was a lot **colder** than the last one. I hope the next summer will be **warmer** than this one!  
b) This is the **best** chocolate cake I’ve ever tried. Can you give me the recipe? – Yes, of course. I found it in this **old** cookbook.   
c) Let’s buy this watch. It is **cheaper** than the others. – Yes, it is, but the others look much **nicer**. And this one is not much **more expensive** than that one; it only costs 5 dollars more.   
d) There were three dogs in our garden. One was very **small**. The other one was a little **bigger** than the first one. The last one was as **big** as the second dog.   
e) We have cleaned the whole house. The kitchen is now as **clean** as the bathroom. But the living room is a bit **cleaner** than my brother’s room because he is so untidy. My room is **the** **cleanest** of all!