

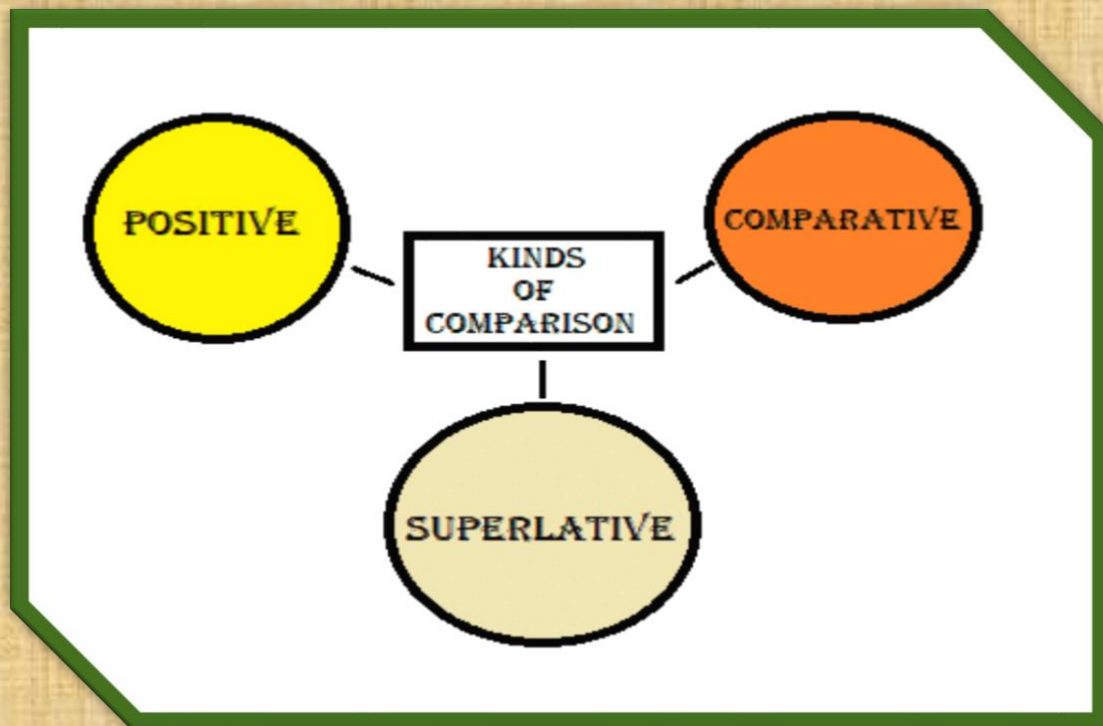
DEGREES OF COMPARISON

Degrees of Comparison are used when we compare one person or one thing with another.

There are three Degrees of Comparison in English.

They are:

1. Positive degree.
2. Comparative degree.
3. Superlative degree.



POSITIVE DEGREE

When we speak about only one person or thing, we use the Positive degree.

Examples:

This house is big.

He is a tall boy.

Each sentence mentioned above talks about only one noun.

COMPARATIVE DEGREE

When we compare two persons or two things with each other, we use Comparative degree.

Examples:

This house is bigger than that one. (Comparative degree)

The term "bigger" is comparative version of the term "big".

This flower is more beautiful than that. (Comparative degree)

The term "more beautiful" is comparative version of the term "beautiful".

SUPERLATIVE DEGREE

When we compare more than two persons or things with one another, we use Superlative degrees.

Examples:

This is the biggest house in this street. (Superlative degree)

The term "biggest" is the superlative version of the term "big".

This flower is the most beautiful one in this garden. (Superlative degree)

The term "most beautiful" is the superlative version of the term "beautiful".

FORMATION OF COMPARATIVE AND SUPERLATIVE DEGREE OF COMPARISONS

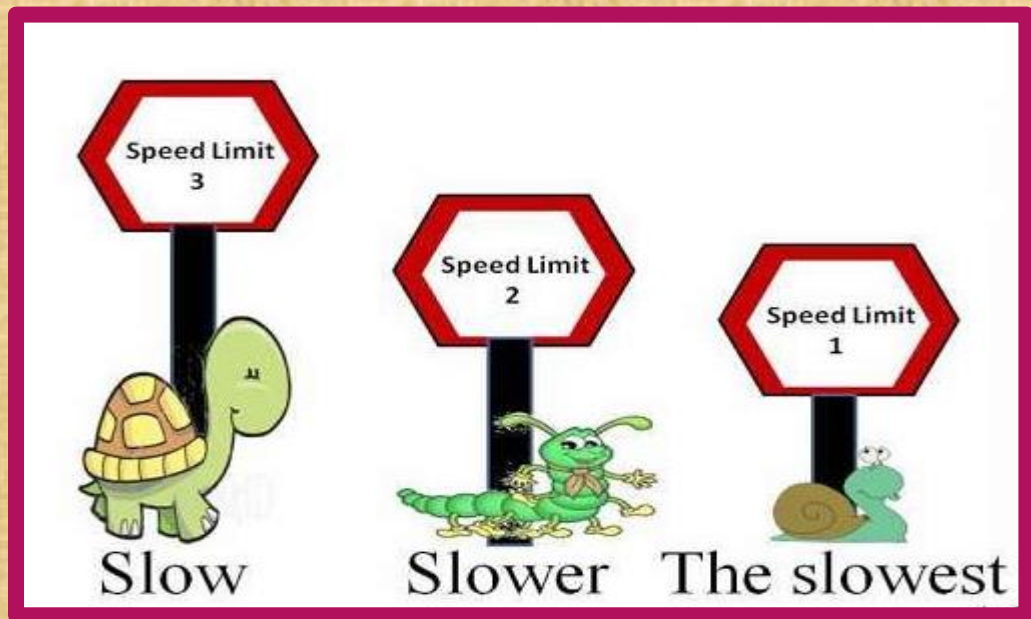
The positive degree can be changed to comparative and superlative degree as follows:

- By adding 'er' for comparative and 'est' for superlative

POSITIVE	COMPARATIVE	SUPERLATIVE
Fast	Faster	Fastest
Slow	Slower	Slowest
Big	Bigger	Biggest
Small	Smaller	Smallest
Brave	Braver	Bravest
Happy	Happier	Happiest

- When positive degree is of more than two syllables then comparative and superlative are formed by adding **more** and **most** to the positive.

POSITIVE	COMPARATIVE	SUPERLATIVE
Beautiful	More Beautiful	Most Beautiful
Faithful	More Faithful	Most Faithful
Useful	More Useful	Most Useful
Intelligent	More Intelligent	Most Intelligent
Famous	More Famous	Most Famous
Industrious	More Industrious	Most Industrious



MODEL -1:

Examples:

i. This is the best hotel in this area.

This hotel is better than any other hotel in this area.
No other hotel is as good as this one in this area.

ii. Unemployment is the most serious problem.

Unemployment is more serious than any other problem
No other problem is as serious as unemployment.

MODEL.-2:

Examples:

i. Calcutta is one of the largest cities in India.

Calcutta is larger than most other cities in India.
Very few cities in India are as large as Calcutta.

ii. Sachin Tendulkar is one of the best batsmen in the world.

Sachin Tendulkar is better than most other batsmen in the world.
Very few batsmen in the world are as good as Sachin Tendulkar.

MODEL-3:

Examples:

i. Ram runs as fast as Shyam.

Shyam does not run faster than Ram.

ii. Mitali paints better than Ramita.

Ramita does not paint as good as Mitali.

SOME PECULIARITIES

These very common adjectives have completely irregular comparative and superlative forms.

Positive	Comparative	Superlative
Good	Better	Best
Bad	Worse	Worst
Little	Less	Least
Much	More	Most
Many	More	Most
Far	Farther	farthest
Fore	Further	Furthest

Old	Elder	Eldest
Old	Older	Oldest
Late	Later	Latest
Late	Latter	Last
In	Inner	Innermost
Up	Upper	Uppermost