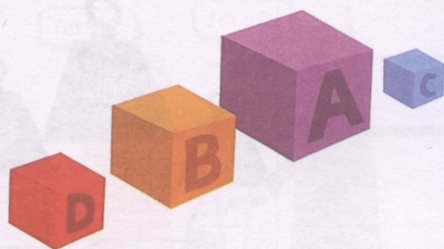


the oldest the most expensive



Box A is **bigger than** Box B.

Box A is **bigger than** all the other boxes.

Box A is **the biggest** box.

MOTEL PRICES IN <i>JAMESTOWN</i> [Per room per night]			
Best West Motel	\$180	Oak Tree Motel	\$105
Sleep Inn	\$135	Cozy Cabins	\$90
Rainbow Motel	\$120	Lake View Inn	\$70

The Best West Motel is **more expensive than** the Sleep Inn.

The Best West Motel is **more expensive than** all the other motels in town.

The Best West Motel is **the most expensive** motel in town.

Bigger and **more expensive**, etc. are *comparative* forms (→ Unit 85).

Biggest and **most expensive**, etc. are *superlative* forms.

B The superlative form is **-est (oldest)** or **most ... (most expensive)**.

Short words (**old/cheap/nice**, etc.) → **the -est**:

old → **the oldest**

cheap → **the cheapest**

nice → **the nicest**

but good → **the best**

bad → **the worst**

For spelling see Appendix 5:

big → **the biggest**

hot → **the hottest**

Words ending in **-y (easy/heavy**, etc.) → **the -iest**:

easy → **the easiest**

heavy → **the heaviest**

pretty → **the prettiest**

Long words (**careful/expensive/interesting**, etc.) → **the most ...**:

careful → **the most careful**

interesting → **the most interesting**

C We say **the oldest ... / the most expensive ...**, etc. (with **the**):

- ☐ The church is very old. It's **the oldest** building in the town.
(= it is **older than** all the other buildings)
- ☐ What is **the longest** river in the world?
- ☐ Money is important, but it isn't **the most important** thing in life.
- ☐ Excuse me, where is **the nearest** bank?

D You can use **the oldest / the best / the most expensive**, etc. without a noun:

- ☐ Mike is a good player, but he isn't **the best** on the team.
(**the best** = the best player)

E You can use *superlative* + **I've ever ... / you've ever ...**, etc.:


- ☐ The movie was very bad. I think it's **the worst** movie **I've ever seen**.
- ☐ What is **the most unusual** thing **you've ever done**?

Exercises

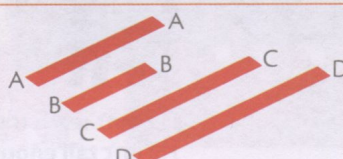
Unit
88

88.1 Write sentences with comparatives (**older**, etc.) and superlatives (**the oldest**, etc.).

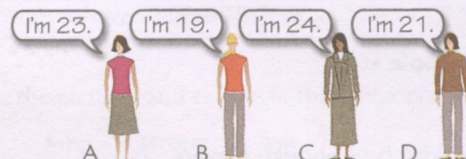
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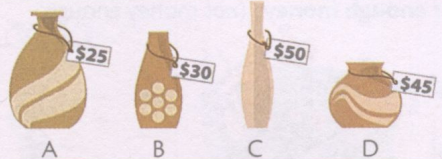
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3



4



5

Restaurant A, Excellent
Restaurant B, Not bad
Restaurant C, Good but not wonderful
Restaurant D, Awful

big/small
(A/D) A is bigger than D.
(A) A is the biggest.
(B) B is the smallest.

long/short
(C/A) C is A.
(D) D is
(B) B is

young/old
(D/C) D
(C)
(B)

expensive/cheap
(D/A)
(C)
(A)

good/bad
(A/C)
(A)
(D)

88.2 Complete the sentences. Use a superlative (**the oldest**, etc.).

- This building is very old. It's the oldest building in town.
- It was a very happy day. It was of my life.
- It's a very good movie. It's I've ever seen.
- She's a very popular singer. She's in the country.
- It was a very bad mistake. It was I've ever made.
- It's a very pretty city. It's I've ever seen.
- It was a very cold day. It was of the year.
- He's a very boring person. He's I've ever met.

88.3 Write sentences with a superlative (**the longest**, etc.). Choose from the boxes.

~~Sydney~~ Alaska
Everest the Nile
Brazil Jupiter

high
large
long

~~city~~ river
country state
mountain planet

Africa the USA
~~Australia~~ the world
South America the solar system

- Sydney is the largest city in Australia.
- Everest
-
-
-
-