



16 Talking about extremes

Use superlative adjectives to talk about extremes, such as "the biggest" or "the smallest." For long adjectives, use "the most" to make the superlative.

-  **New language** Superlative adjectives
- Aa Vocabulary** Animals, facts, and places
-  **New skill** Talking about extremes

16.1 KEY LANGUAGE SUPERLATIVE ADJECTIVES

For most adjectives with one or two syllables, add "est" to make the superlative.

The comparative describes the difference between two things.

K2 is higher than Annapurna, but Everest is **the highest** mountain in the world.

Always use the definite article ("the") before the superlative.

The superlative describes which thing is the most extreme.



Annapurna



K2



Everest



16.2 FURTHER EXAMPLES SUPERLATIVE ADJECTIVES

Rhinos are bigger than cows, but elephants are **the biggest** land animals.



Great white sharks are larger than dolphins, but blue whales are **the largest** animals in the world.



16.3 HOW TO FORM SENTENCES WITH SUPERLATIVES

SUBJECT + VERB

Everest is

"THE" + SUPERLATIVE

the highest

REST OF SENTENCE

mountain in the world.

16.4 KEY LANGUAGE FORMING SUPERLATIVES

There are special rules for adjectives ending in "e" or "y," and for some that end with a single consonant.

fast
↓
fastest
Add "est" to most adjectives of one or two syllables.

close
↓
closest
If the adjective ends in "e," you just add "st."

early
↓
earliest
For some adjectives ending in "y," take off the "y" and add "iest."

big
↓
biggest
For single-syllable adjectives ending consonant-vowel-consonant, double the final letter and add "est."



16.5 LISTEN TO THE AUDIO AND ANSWER THE QUESTIONS



Friends Joel, Sarah, and Ben talk about the things they've bought.

Who has the fastest car?

Joel ☒ Sarah ☐ Ben ☐

1 Who is the tallest?

Joel ☐ Sarah ☐ Ben ☐

2 Who has the smallest phone?

Joel ☐ Sarah ☐ Ben ☐

3 Who has the cheapest laptop?

Joel ☐ Sarah ☐ Ben ☐

4 Who has the most expensive apartment?

Joel ☐ Sarah ☐ Ben ☐

5 Who is the youngest?

Joel ☐ Sarah ☐ Ben ☐



16.6 FILL IN THE GAPS BY PUTTING THE ADJECTIVES IN THE CORRECT FORM

The oldest (old) plane in the world is the Blériot XI.

1 The African elephant is the _____ (heavy) animal on land.

2 The _____ (fast) animal in the world is the peregrine falcon.

3 The _____ (long) word in the English dictionary has 45 letters.

4 The Sahara is the _____ (big) desert in the world.

5 The giraffe is the _____ (tall) animal on Earth.



16.7 KEY LANGUAGE SUPERLATIVES WITH LONG ADJECTIVES

For some two-syllable adjectives and for adjectives of three syllables or more, use "the most" before the adjective. The form of the adjective doesn't change.



The Palace Hotel is **more expensive** than the Rialto, but the Biarritz is **the most expensive** hotel in the city.

Use "the most" with the adjective.

The adjective stays the same.



16.8 HOW TO FORM SUPERLATIVES WITH LONG ADJECTIVES



16.9 FURTHER EXAMPLES SUPERLATIVES WITH LONG ADJECTIVES

The science museum is **the most interesting** museum in town.



The Twister is **the most exciting** ride in the theme park.



This is **the most comfortable** chair in the room.



16.10 MATCH THE BEGINNINGS OF THE SENTENCES TO THE CORRECT ENDINGS

1	The Yangtze River is	the largest state in the US.
2	Antarctica is	the coldest place on Earth.
3	Mumbai is	the most dangerous snake in the world.
4	Alaska is	the longest river in Asia.
	The inland taipan is	the biggest city in India.





16.11 READ THE ARTICLE AND ANSWER THE QUESTIONS

The Hotel Blog
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POSTED FRIDAY, 28 AUGUST

The Rialto (height: 500 feet) is two miles from the beach. The average temperature is a hot 85°F, and it's in a three-star (***) area of natural beauty. Room per night: \$500. Number of rooms: 300.

The Plaza (height: 600 feet) is one mile from the beach, and in a five-star (****) area of natural beauty. The temperature is usually a warm 75°F. Room per night: \$400. Number of rooms: 500.

The Grand (height: 300 feet) is less than a mile from the beach. It's in a four-star (****) area of natural beauty, and the temperature is a cool 65°F. Room per night: \$515. Number of rooms: 200.

Which is the most expensive hotel?

The Rialto ☐ The Plaza ☐ The Grand ☒

1 Which hotel is the closest to the beach?

The Rialto ☐ The Plaza ☐ The Grand ☐

2 Which is the tallest hotel?

The Rialto ☐ The Plaza ☐ The Grand ☐

3 Which hotel is in the most beautiful area?

The Rialto ☐ The Plaza ☐ The Grand ☐

4 Which hotel has the fewest rooms?

The Rialto ☐ The Plaza ☐ The Grand ☐

5 Which hotel is in the warmest place?

The Rialto ☐ The Plaza ☐ The Grand ☐



16.12 SAY THE SENTENCES OUT LOUD, FILLING IN THE GAPS USING SUPERLATIVES

Mount Everest is a very high mountain. It is the highest mountain in the world.

1 Moscow is a very large city. It is _____ city in Europe.

2 The Missouri River is 2,540 miles long. It is _____ river in North America.

3 The cheetah is a very fast animal. It is _____ land animal on Earth.

4 The Kali Gandaki Gorge is 3.46 miles deep. It is _____ gorge in the world.

16 CHECKLIST



Superlative adjectives ☐



Aa Animals, facts, and places ☐



Talking about extremes ☐