

17 Comparing places

You can use modifiers before comparatives and superlatives to compare places, such as geographical features, in more detail.

 **New language** Modifiers

 **Aa Vocabulary** Geographical terms

 **New skill** Describing and comparing places

17.1 KEY LANGUAGE COMPARATIVES WITH MODIFIERS

Use modifiers before comparatives to be more precise about the comparison you are making.

The tree is  taller than the building.

modifier
comparative

These modifiers mean there is a big difference between the things you are comparing.

The tree is  taller than the building.

These modifiers mean there is only a small difference between the things you are comparing.



TIP

You can't modify comparatives with "very."

17.2 KEY LANGUAGE LONG COMPARATIVES WITH MODIFIERS

The palace is **much **more** **beautiful** than the factory.**

The modifier goes before "more."

Form long comparatives by putting "more" before the adjective.



17.3 LOOK AT THE PICTURES AND CROSS OUT THE INCORRECT WORDS IN EACH SENTENCE



The tree is **a bit** / **much** taller than the house.



The mountain is **much** / **a bit** taller than the hill.



The church is **a lot** / **slightly** taller than the café.



The window is **slightly** / **much** wider than the door.



The lighthouse is **a bit** / **a lot** taller than the statue.



The castle is **much** / **slightly** bigger than the hotel.



17.4 KEY LANGUAGE SUPERLATIVES WITH MODIFIERS

You can use "easily" or "by far" to make superlative adjectives stronger, or "one of" to show that the superlative belongs to a group of things.

The clock tower is **easily** **by far** the tallest building in the town.

These modifiers make the superlative stronger.
You cannot use them with comparatives.



The clock tower is one of the tallest buildings in the town.

"One of" makes the superlative part of a group.

If you use "one of" with superlatives, the noun must be in plural form.

17.5 KEY LANGUAGE LONG SUPERLATIVES WITH MODIFIERS

This is by far the most expensive shop in the street.

The modifier goes before "the."

Form long superlatives by putting "the most" before the adjective.



17.6 SAY THE SENTENCES OUT LOUD, CORRECTING THE ERRORS

This tree is much the tallest.

This tree is by far the tallest.

1 Spain is very warmer than Scotland.



4 India is one of the largest country in Asia.



2 Your house is more much beautiful than mine.



5 The sea is by far colder than the pool.



3 The Nile is longer a bit than the Amazon.



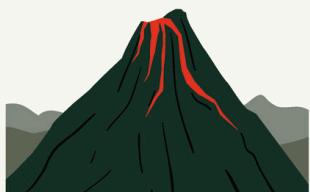
6 This is the most easily expensive hotel in town.



7 The tower is a lot the tallest building here.



17.7 VOCABULARY GEOGRAPHICAL TERMS



volcano



mountain range



glacier



valley



17.8 LISTEN TO THE AUDIO AND ANSWER THE QUESTIONS



Umar and Sharon are taking a quiz about places around the world.

Umar thinks the Himalayas are...

the tallest mountain range



the highest mountain



much longer than the Andes



1 Sharon thinks the Andes are...

a bit longer than the Himalayas



much longer than the Himalayas



slightly longer than the Himalayas



2 What does Umar say about the Niagara Falls?

It's one of the tallest waterfalls



It's the longest river



It's by far the tallest waterfall



3 What does Umar say is off the coast of Japan?

The highest mountain



The Khone Falls



The biggest volcano



4 What does Umar think is found in Antarctica?

The largest glacier



The coldest glacier



The widest glacier



5 Umar says the Pacific Ocean is...

a bit bigger than the Atlantic Ocean



easily the biggest ocean



much bigger than the Atlantic Ocean



6 Umar says Canada's coastline is...

longer than Australia's coastline



by far the longest coastline



shorter than Australia's coastline



7 Sharon says Canada is...

the world's biggest country



a lot bigger than Australia



a bit bigger than Australia





rainforest



waterfall



cliff



ocean



17.9 READ THE ARTICLE AND ANSWER THE QUESTIONS

Antarctica is easily the coldest continent on Earth.

True False

1 Death Valley is the driest place in the world.

True False

2 The Atacama Desert is a lot drier than Death Valley.

True False

3 Helsinki has much more daylight time than Reykjavik.

True False

4 The Congo rainforest is the largest one on Earth.

True False

5 The Amazon is slightly bigger than the Congo.

True False

6 The wettest place on Earth is in India.

True False



Did you know?



- **Antarctica** is by far the coldest and windiest continent on Earth. It's covered by permanently frozen ground.
- **Death Valley** in California is the hottest place in the world, with temperatures of around 130°F. It's also one of the driest places in the world.
- **The Atacama Desert**, in Chile, is much drier than Death Valley. Some parts of the desert have had no rain for more than 400 years.
- **Reykjavik**, in Iceland, has only 4.07 hours of daylight in December. Helsinki has slightly more daylight time than Reykjavik; around 5.5 hours.
- The two largest rainforests on Earth are the **Amazon** and **the Congo**, but the Amazon is much bigger than the Congo.
- The wettest place on Earth is **Mawsynram**, in India, where the average rainfall is 11,871 mm per year.

17 ✓ CHECKLIST

Modifiers

Geographical terms

Describing and comparing places