ADJECTIVE

An adjective is a describing word. It tells us something more about a noun.
Examples: rainy day, fertile land, this girl, those apples, five fingers, many questions, last question, whose house

Adjectives are classified into:

- **Adjectives of quality** describe the noun, that is, they tell us about the quality of the person, place or thing to which we are referring.
  Such adjectives can be formed in the following ways:
  - from nouns—
    Examples: gold—golden, power—powerful, dirt—dirty
  - from verbs—
    Examples: use—useful, talk—talkative, please—pleasant
  - from other adjectives—
    Examples: just—justifiable, red—reddish

- **Adjectives of quantity** refer to the quantity (how much) of something. They are not countable. Some such adjectives are some, much, little, enough.
  Examples: There is very little sugar in my tea.
  I think there is enough time to finish the assignment.

- **Adjectives of number** refer to how many things, places, people, etc there are, or the order of something. Some such adjectives are first, second, ten, one, many.
  Examples: She came first in the race.
  Several books were stolen from the library.

时不时 the same adjective may be treated both as an adjective of quantity and as an adjective of number, that is, it is used to qualify both countable and uncountable nouns.

Examples: I ate some food.
Some children are playing in the park.
You have no idea what this means to me.
There is no money in the purse.
He did not eat any food.
Are there any chalks in the box?

- **Demonstrative adjectives** indicate the noun, that is, they point out the person, place or thing to which we are referring. They answer to the question ‘which’. Some such adjectives are this, that, these, those.
  Examples: These are the clothes I was looking for.
  Those are my books.

- **Interrogative adjectives** are used before a noun when we want to ask a question about that noun. Some such adjectives are what, which, whose.
  Examples: Which books do you want?
  Whose coat is this?

**Comparative degree of adjectives**
Adjectives are used to describe some quality of the person, place, or thing that we are talking about. So sometimes, the extent—or the degree—of that quality needs to be mentioned in comparison with that same quality in another object.

Adjectives have three degrees of comparison:

- **Positive degree**: This is the adjective in its simple form. It is used simply to denote the existence of a particular quality in the person, place or thing that we are talking about.
  Example: My suitcase is heavy.

- **Comparative degree**: This is the form of the adjective that describes a higher degree of that particular quality than the positive degree. It is used when two objects are being compared.
  Example: My suitcase is heavier than yours.

- **Superlative degree**: This is the form of the adjective that describes the highest degree of that particular quality. It is used when more than two objects are being compared.
  Example: My suitcase is the heaviest of all.

☞ The article ‘the’ is always added before the superlative degree.
Example: Rahul is the tallest boy in the class.
Sometimes the comparative degree is formed by using the word ‘more’ before the positive degree.

Example: Some girls were more beautiful than the others.

Similarly, the superlative degree is sometimes formed by using the word ‘most’ before the positive degree.

Example: The most beautiful girl was declared the winner.

If the words ‘many/much’, ‘more’ or ‘most’ are used before a noun, they are themselves adjectives qualifying that noun.

Examples: more homework, more sandwiches, most marks, many times

If the words ‘more’ and ‘most’ are used before an adjective, they are adverbs but doing the work of an adjective by qualifying that adjective.

Examples: more honest, more energetic, most popular, most delicious

Some adjectives are compared irregularly, that is, their comparative and superlative degrees are not formed from their positive degree.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Positive</th>
<th>Comparative</th>
<th>Superlative</th>
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<td>good</td>
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<tr>
<td>bad</td>
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<td>worst</td>
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<td>many/much</td>
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<td>little</td>
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<tr>
<td>old</td>
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<tr>
<td>late</td>
<td>later/latter</td>
<td>latest/last</td>
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Worksheet 3

I. Fill in the blanks with the appropriate kinds of adjectives indicated in the brackets.
   a) Is there _______ water in the jar? (Quantity)
   b) _______ pen is mine. (Demonstrative)
   c) There are _______ eggs in the bowl. (Number)
   d) Do you have a _______ box? (Quality)
   e) _______ is your name? (Interrogative)

II. Form adjectives from the following words.
   a) sense  b) nature  c) break  d) day
   e) boy    f) courage  g) long  h) live

III. Fill in the blanks with the appropriate degree of comparison—positive, comparative or superlative—of the adjectives provided in the box. Write the degree of comparison in the brackets alongside each sentence.
   highest  high  greater  many  greatest
   young  mighty  well

   a) I have a _______ fever. (_________)
   b) Mount Everest is the _______ mountain in the world. (_________)
   c) Shakespeare is _______ than any other English poet. (_________)
   d) The pen is _______ than the sword. (_________)
   e) My sister is the _______ member of our family. (_________)

IV. Give the comparative and the superlative degrees of the following adjectives.
   a) dangerous  b) popular  c) thin  d) difficult
   e) large  f) lazy  g) colourful  h) intelligent
   i) honest  j) short  k) tall  l) big
V. Complete the sentences given below by filling in the blanks using ‘many’, ‘much’, ‘more’ and ‘most’ as suitable.

a) That is the _________ delicious cake I have ever eaten.
b) I have told you _________ times to write your name on your books.
c) Physical punishment does _________ harm than good.
d) The candidate who gets the _________ votes enters Parliament.
e) The child appears _________ energetic after taking the tonic.
f) Honour is _________ valuable to him than life.
g) Arjun was the _________ skillful of all the brothers in the art of warfare.
h) Platinum is _________ expensive than gold.
i) Platinum is the _________ expensive metal.
j) This sofa is _________ comfortable than that one.

VI. Fill in the blanks with the correct degree of comparison using the adjectives provided in the brackets.

a) What is the _________ news? (late)
b) Amit is the _________ of the two brothers. (older/elder)
c) Amit is my _________ brother. (older/elder)
d) Today is the _________ day of submitting the forms. (last)
e) The patient is in a _________ condition today than she was yesterday. (bad)
f) The encyclopaedia contains _________ information. (many/much)
g) There is _________ excitement on the last day of the term. (many/much)
h) I have two _________ brothers. (elder/older)
i) I promise to do _________ next time. (good/better)
j) My brother is _________ both at studies and at games. (good/better)