

CALLAN

English

Student's transition material

Stage 8 (2nd edition) – Stage 9 (3rd edition)

Comparatives and superlatives of adjectives, participles and adverbs

Most adjectives of two syllables which have the stress on the first syllable form their comparatives and superlatives by adding “-er” and “-est”. For example, “clever – cleverer – cleverest” and “simple – simpler – simplest”.

How do most adjectives of two syllables which have the stress on the first syllable form their comparatives and superlatives?

Most adjectives of ... by adding “-er” and “-est”.

Give me some examples, please.

narrow – narrower – narrowest; happy – happier – happiest

However, adjectives ending in “-ful” or “-less” form their comparatives and superlatives by using “more than” and “the most”. For example, “helpful – more helpful – the most helpful” and “careless – more careless – the most careless”.

Which adjectives of two syllables form their comparatives and superlatives by using “more than” and “the most”?

The adjectives of two syllables which form ... are those ending in “-ful” or “-less”.

Give me some examples, please.

careful – more careful – the most careful; useless – more useless – the most useless

Some adjectives are made from the participles of verbs. For example, “a surprising result” or “an interested child”. These adjectives form their comparatives and superlatives by using “more than” and “the most”. For example, “boring – more boring – the most boring” and “pleased – more pleased – the most pleased”.

How do we form the comparatives and superlatives of adjectives made from the participles of verbs?

We form the ... by using “more than” and “the most”.

Give me some examples, please.

exciting – more exciting – the most exciting; tired – more tired – the most tired

There are some exceptions to these rules, but if you are not sure how to form the comparative and superlative of an adjective, it is best to use “more than” and “the most”.

If you are not sure how to form the comparative and superlative of an adjective, what is it best to do?

If you are not sure ..., it's best to use "more than" and "the most".

Adverbs that are made by adding "-ly" to an adjective form their comparatives and superlatives by using "more than" and "the most". For example, "carefully – more carefully – the most carefully".

How do we form the comparatives and superlatives of adverbs that are made by adding "-ly" to an adjective?

We form the ... of adverbs that are made by adding "-ly" to an adjective by using "more than" and "the most".

Give me some examples, please.

happily – more happily – the most happily; loudly – more loudly – the most loudly