


A Adjectives ending in -ed and -ing

annoyed (infastidito)	annoying (fastidioso)
bored (annoiato)	boring (noioso)
confused (confuso)	confusing (che confonde)
depressed (depresso)	depressing (deprimente)
disappointed (deluso)	disappointing (deludente)
excited (eccitato)	exciting (entusiasmante)
exhausted (esausto)	exhausting (spossante)
interested (interessato)	interesting (interessante)
tired (stanco)	tiring (stancante)
worried (preoccupato)	worrying (preoccupante)

- 1 We use an adjective ending in **-ed** to describe how we think or feel about something. We use an adjective ending in **-ing** to describe the people or things that cause this feeling.

Susan's boyfriend is very boring. (He isn't a very interesting person.)

That's why Susan is very bored. (He causes Susan to feel bored.)

-  Remember unlike Italian, in English adjectives always precede the noun and do not vary according to gender or number.

B Comparative and superlative adjectives

	Adjective	Comparative	Superlative
1 syllable	old	older (than)	the oldest (in/of)
1 syllable ending in -e	large	larger	the largest
1 syllable ending in consonant + vowel + consonant	hot	hotter	the hottest
2 syllables ending in consonant + -y	funny	funnier	the funniest
2 syllables	exciting	more exciting	the most exciting
Irregular	good bad far	better worse farther/further	the best the worst the farthest/furthest

<i>less ... than, the least</i>	less complicated than the least worrying of/in
<i>(not) as ... as</i>	as easy as, not as simple as

- 1 We use comparative adjectives (+ **than**) to compare two people or things. To make a negative comparison we use **less** (+ **than**).

My sister's older than me.

I'm less stressed than you.

- 2 We use **the** + superlative adjectives (+ **in/of**) to compare more than two people or things. We use **the least** for negative superlatives.

She's the tallest person in my class.

He's the least organised guy I know.

- 3 We use **(not) as ... as** to say that two people or things are similar, or different in some way.

He's as clever as me.

She isn't as tall as me.

C Adverbs

- 1 We form adverbs by adding **-ly** to an adjective (see the Spelling rules).
- 2 We use adverbs to describe how we do something or to describe an adjective.
He walked slowly to the bus stop.
He's incredibly lucky.
- 3 We do not put an adverb between the verb and the object of a sentence.
She did her homework carefully.
NOT ~~She did carefully her homework.~~

Spelling rules

- ▶ Regular adjectives + **-ly** slow – slowly
- ▶ Adjectives which end in **-y**: **y** becomes **-ily**
easy – easily
- ▶ Adjectives which end in **-ble**: **-ble** becomes **-bly**
terrible – terribly
- ▶ Adjectives which end in **-c**: + **ally**
historic – historically
- ▶ Irregular adjectives:
good – well fast – fast hard – hard

D Comparative adverbs

- 1 We form comparative adverbs like this:

more + adverb + than

You talk more slowly than me.

- 2 Irregular adverbs also have irregular comparative forms.

well – better badly – worse fast – faster

hard – harder early – earlier late – later

A Adjectives ending in -ed and -ing

1 Choose the correct alternative.

- I don't like my aerobics class because the instructor's really bored (boring).
- Jenny's behaving strangely. I'm getting worried/worrying about her.
- Training was really hard tonight. I'm exhausted/exhausting!
- Alex's exam results were very disappointing/disappointed.
- My mum's new job seems really interesting/interested.

2 Complete the sentences with an adjective from the list on page 6.

- Go to bed if you're tired.
- Please stop biting your nails. It's very _____.
- I couldn't read the map. It was really _____.
- We're _____ about our holiday in New York.
- Angela's been _____ since she lost her job.

B Comparative and superlative adjectives

3 Complete the sentences with the comparative or superlative forms of the adjectives in the box and *than* or *in*.

large long relaxing difficult high

- Which is the longest river in the world?
- Yoga is _____ football.
- I'd like to climb _____ mountain _____ the world.
- Do you think Physics is _____ Maths?
- Our new house is _____ our old one.

4 Complete the sentences with *as ... as*, *less than* or *the least* and the adjective in brackets.

- The film wasn't as exciting as I expected. (exciting)
- Dogs are _____ cats. (independent)
- This is _____ film I've ever seen! (interesting)
- Gillian wasn't _____ her mum. (embarrassed)
- I'm just _____ you! (intelligent)

C Adverbs

5 Change the adjectives in the box into adverbs and put them in the correct place in the sentences. Write in your exercise books.

fantastic angry beautiful bad
perfect terrible

- Mary plays the piano.
Mary plays the piano beautifully.
- Our team played today and we lost.
- Diana's upset about failing her exams.
- Paul looked at me when I told him.
- They understand me.
- Chris sang and got a standing ovation.

6 Are the underlined words right or wrong? Tick ✓ the correct words, and correct the wrong ones.

- She studied hardly all summer. hard
- She's a very aggressive driver. _____
- My sister writes very neat. _____
- You must talk quiet in the library. _____
- I see Naomi fairly regularly. _____
- Do you always walk so fastly? _____
- Bill paints very skilful. _____
- Annie's incredibly talented. _____

D Comparative adverbs

7 Complete the sentences with the comparative form of an adverb in the box + *than*.

late careful early aggressively quickly

- I have to go to bed earlier than my sister.
- My friends can stay out _____ me.
- You must do your homework _____ this.
- Can you text _____ your best friend?
- Do people drive _____ in big cities _____ in small towns?

8 Translate the sentences into English in your exercise book.

- Puoi parlare più lentamente, per favore?
Can you speak more slowly, please?
- Mi alzo più presto di te.
- Il treno va più veloce dell'autobus.
- Jack e Claire vanno più d'accordo quando sono in vacanza.
- A Capisci più facilmente l'inglese dello spagnolo?
B Sì. Capisco perfettamente l'inglese.