Comparative and Superlative Adverbs

A **comparative adverb** compares two actions. Add *-er* to many adverbs to make them comparative. Use *more* with most adverbs that end in *-ly*. Do not use *more* with the *-er* form of an adverb.

The orca swam **faster** and **more powerfully** than the penguin.

A **superlative adverb** compares three or more actions. Add *-est* to many adverbs to make them superlative. Use *most* with most adverbs that end in *-ly*. Do not use *most* with the *-est* form of an adverb.

On the third day of the storm, the wind blew **hardest** and **most constantly**.

Some adverbs, including *well* and *badly*, have irregular comparative and superlative forms: *well, better, best; badly, worse, worst.*

**Directions** Change the underlined adverb to the kind of adverb in ( ). Write the new adverb.

1. The wind in Antarctica blows **hard** than in Africa. (comparative)
  
2. I walk **slowly** on the ice than I do on the rocks. (comparative)

3. People move **carefully** than penguins. (comparative)

4. I travel **fast** of all on skis. (superlative)

5. The sun stays **long** in the sky in December. (superlative)

6. The sun in Antarctica burns the skin **badly** than in the United States. (comparative)

**Home Activity** Your child learned about comparative and superlative adverbs. Ask your child to give you examples comparing how he or she does something with how friends or family members do the same thing.
Comparative and Superlative Adverbs

Directions Write the comparative or superlative form of each adverb in ( ) to complete the paragraph correctly.

Allan, Jill, and I went on an expedition to Antarctica. Of the three of us, Allan knew the continent (1. well), so he advised us what to do. Jill skied (2. fast) and (3. skillfully) than I did. However, I was useful because I cooked (4. well) than the other two! We loved watching the penguins, which move (5. gracefully) in the water of all birds. On land, however, they waddle (6. comically) than a baby learning to walk. The wind never stopped blowing. Each day it tried (7. hard) than the day before to knock us off our feet. On our final day it blew (8. fiercely) of all.

We were glad to reach camp.

1. __________________________ 5. __________________________
2. __________________________ 6. __________________________
3. __________________________ 7. __________________________
4. __________________________ 8. __________________________

Directions Write three sentences about dogs and cats. Use a comparative adverb in each sentence.

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

Home Activity Your child learned how to use comparative and superlative adverbs in writing. Ask your child to write a brief description telling what he or she can do now compared with a year ago. Encourage him or her to use comparative or superlative adverbs in the description.

94 Unit 5 Week 4 Day 3 Grammar and Writing Practice Book
Comparative and Superlative Adverbs

Directions  Mark the letter of the word or words that complete each sentence.

1. The snow fell ______ yesterday than today.
   A heaviier
   B most heavily
   C heaviest
   D more heavily

2. Fresh water freezes ______ than salt water.
   A faster
   B fastest
   C fast
   D more faster

3. Of all the birds, the penguin walks ______.
   A more clumsily
   B clumsiest
   C most clumsily
   D clumsy

4. The whale dives ______ of all mammals.
   A most deepest
   B deepliest
   C deeper
   D deepest

5. My two partners and I set out together, but I arrived ______.
   A most soon
   B soonest
   C sooner
   D more soon

6. You survive the cold ______ than I do.
   A more better
   B best
   C better
   D good

7. It was stormy all week, but the wind blew ______ on Monday.
   A most hardest
   B hardly
   C hardest
   D more harder

8. I will remember this ______ of all my vacations.
   A best
   B better
   C most best
   D bestest

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Home Activity  Your child prepared for taking tests on comparative and superlative adverbs. Have your child write a list of adverbs. Say an adverb from the list and ask your child to say a sentence using the adverb in its comparative or superlative form.

Grammar and Writing Practice Book  Unit 5 Week 4 Day 4 95
Comparative and Superlative Adverbs

Directions: Write the correct form of the adverb in ( ) to complete each sentence.

1. The ice in Antarctica is melting (quickly) now than it did 100 years ago.

2. People explore the continent (comfortably) than they used to.

3. Modern technology works (well) than the old-fashioned kind.

4. Of all people, scientists return to Antarctica (frequently).

5. The wind blows (fiercely) there than here.

6. You can get frostbite in Antarctica (easily) than in the United States.

7. Three teams raced to the South Pole to see which would get there (fast).

8. The winning team worked (hard) than the second-place team.

9. The winners traveled (rapidly) of all.

10. Dogs work (efficiently) in the extreme cold than horses do.

Home Activity: Your child reviewed comparative and superlative adverbs. Have your child find examples of comparative and superlative adverbs in ads and explain what each adverb is being used to compare.