

Grammar L1GLO6

Adjectives: Demonstrative, Comparative and Superlative

Learning Outcome 6: Adjectives

NOTICING A Read the sentences. Answer the questions below.

1. This book is longer than the books I normally read, but the story is very interesting. The best thing about the book is that it's very exciting. I think it's more exciting than other books for young people.
2. The worst book I read this year is a history book. It's more boring than other history books I read. Those other books make it interesting to read about the past, but this book doesn't.
3. I read this writer's last book and enjoyed it. That book is the funniest book I know. It's also shorter than the writer's first book. I think it was the shortest book in the book store! When you read it, you think, "These jokes are really funny!"

Which circled word do you use for ...

- a. one thing that is close to you or you are talking about for the first time? _____
- b. one thing that isn't close to you and you aren't talking about for the first time? _____
- c. two or more things that are close to you or you are talking about for the first time? _____
- d. two or more things that aren't close to you and you aren't talking about for the first time?

Which underlined words do you use to ...

- e. compare two things (one-syllable adjective)? _____ , _____
- f. compare two things (adjective with two or more syllables)? _____ , _____
- g. say that one thing is more of something than any other thing? _____ , _____ ,
_____ , _____

Demonstrative Adjectives

Adjectives are words you use to describe things and people. You use the demonstrative adjectives *this* and *these* for people or things that are close to you or that you are talking about for the first time. You use *that* and *those* for people or things that aren't close to you or that you talked about a short time ago.

Comparative and Superlative Adjectives

You can also use adjectives to compare different things or people.

To compare two things or people, you use the comparative form (adjective + *-er* (+ *than*) for one-syllable adjectives, e.g. *long – longer*; *more* + adjective (+ *than*) for adjectives with two or more syllables, e.g. *interesting – more interesting than*).

To compare three or more things or people and say that one of them is more of something than the others, you use the superlative form (*the* + adjective + *-est* for one-syllable adjectives, e.g. *long – the longest*; *the most* + adjective for adjectives with two or more syllables, e.g. *interesting – the most interesting*).

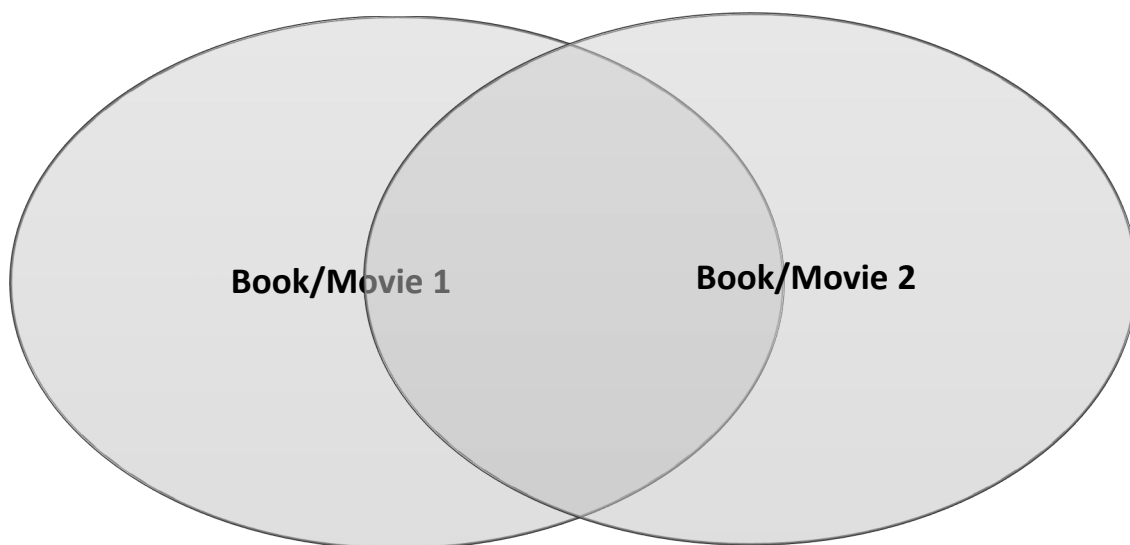
Remember that some adjectives have irregular comparative and superlative forms:

good – better than – the best bad – worse than – the worst far – farther – the farthest

B Read the sentences. Choose the correct option.

1. (These / Those) books here on the table are very interesting.
2. Old books are sometimes (better / best) than new books.
3. I know what you mean. (This / That) was the funniest moment in the movie!
4. The (worse / worst) movie I know is a movie about animals in a zoo.
5. It's (easier / easiest) to watch the movie than read the book.
6. That was the (most / more) expensive book I bought last year.

C Choose two books or movies. Think about how to use adjectives to compare them. Make notes in the Venn diagram below about the things that are different and the same.



D Work in pairs. Use your notes from exercise C to tell your partner about books or movies.