



Comparatives & Superlatives: Mixed Degrees of Comparison

Fill in the blank with the correct option.

- The Amazon is ___ river in South America.
a) the longest
b) longer
c) the most long
d) longest
- This is one of ___ experiences I have ever had.
a) more amazing
b) the amazingest
c) most amazing
d) the most amazing
- The weather today is just as ___ as yesterday.
a) the warmest
b) warm
c) warmest
d) warmer
- This laptop is not the cheapest, but it has ___ battery life of all the models.
a) longest
b) the longest
c) longer
d) the most long
- That was ___ holiday we have ever taken.
a) the best
b) good
c) the goodest
d) better
- My new flat is not as ___ as my old one.
a) more spacious
b) the most spacious
c) spaciouser
d) spacious
- Canada is the ___ largest country in the world by area.
a) more
b) other
c) second
d) two
- The concert was far ___ than we expected.
a) better
b) the best
c) best
d) the most good
- She is ___ the most talented musician in the orchestra.
a) very
b) easily
c) too
d) so
- Life in the countryside is ___ than life in the city.
a) the quietest
b) the most quiet
c) quiet
d) quieter
- He is one of ___ athletes who has ever competed in the Olympics.
a) younger
b) the youngest
c) the most young
d) youngest

12. The job wasn't as ___ as I feared.
a) more difficult
b) the most difficult
c) difficult
d) difficulter
13. Of all the proposals, theirs was ___ practical.
a) the most less
b) least
c) the least
d) less
14. The more you practise, ___ your English will become.
a) the better
b) better
c) the best
d) best
15. This is by far ___ meal I have ever eaten at this restaurant.
a) worst
b) the baddest
c) worse
d) the worst
16. These shoes are exactly as ___ as the ones in the other shop.
a) the most comfortable
b) comfortabler
c) more comfortable
d) comfortable
17. The Burj Khalifa is much ___ than any other building in the world.
a) the tallest
b) taller
c) tallest
d) the most tall
18. This was ___ challenging exam of the entire course.
a) the much
b) more
c) the most
d) most
19. The sooner we leave, the ___ traffic we will encounter.
a) fewer
b) the least
c) less
d) least
20. This city has one of ___ crime rates of any capital in Europe.
a) the lowest
b) lowest
c) lower
d) the most low



Answers

1. a) the longest
2. d) the most amazing
3. b) warm
4. b) the longest
5. a) the best
6. d) spacious
7. c) second
8. a) better
9. b) easily
10. d) quieter
11. b) the youngest
12. c) difficult
13. c) the least
14. a) the better
15. d) the worst
16. d) comfortable
17. b) taller
18. c) the most
19. c) less
20. a) the lowest



Explanations

1. “the longest” (a)

We're identifying the number one river in South America (comparing many), so we use the superlative 'the longest'.

2. “the most amazing” (d)

'One of the + superlative + plural noun + I have ever had' is a common structure combining the superlative with the present perfect.

3. “warm” (b)

'As...as' compares two equal things and uses the base (positive) form of the adjective: as warm as. Not the comparative or superlative.

4. “the longest” (b)

'Of all the models' tells us we are comparing many items, so we need the superlative 'the longest'. 'Long' is a one-syllable adjective, so the superlative is longest.

5. “the best” (a)

'The + superlative + noun + (that) + subject + have ever + past participle' is a classic structure: the best holiday we have ever taken.

6. “spacious” (d)

'Not as...as' uses the base (positive) form: not as spacious as. This means 'my new flat is less spacious than my old one'.

7. “second” (c)

Ordinal + superlative for rankings: the second largest = ranked number two. Russia is the largest; Canada is the second largest.

8. “better” (a)

'Than we expected' = comparing two things (reality vs expectation), so we use the comparative 'better'. 'Far' intensifies the comparison.

9. “easily” (b)

'Easily' modifies superlatives to mean 'without doubt': easily the most talented = clearly the best, with no close rival.

10. “quieter” (d)

We're comparing two lifestyles (countryside vs city), so we use the comparative 'quieter'. Use comparatives with 'than'.

11. “the youngest” (b)

'One of the + superlative + plural noun' pattern. Even though 'athletes' is followed by 'who has', the superlative structure requires 'the youngest'.

12. “difficult” (c)

'Not as...as' uses the base form: not as difficult as. This means 'the job was less difficult than I feared'.

13. “the least” (c)

'Of all the proposals' = comparing many, so we need the superlative. 'The least practical' = the most impractical of all.

14. “the better” (a)

'The + comparative ... the + comparative' shows cause and effect. After 'the more you practise', we need 'the better' (not just 'better' — both parts need 'the').

15. “the worst” (d)

'By far' + superlative for strong emphasis. 'The worst meal I have ever eaten' combines superlative + present perfect for life experience.

16. “comfortable” (d)

'As...as' uses the base form: as comfortable as. 'Exactly' emphasises that the two pairs are equal in comfort.

17. “taller” (b)

'Than any other building' = comparing one with all others individually, so we use the comparative 'taller'. 'Much' intensifies the comparison.

18. “the most” (c)

'Of the entire course' = comparing all exams, so we need the superlative 'the most challenging'.

19. “less” (c)

'The + comparative ... the + comparative' structure. 'Traffic' is uncountable, so we use 'less' (not 'fewer'): the less traffic.

20. “the lowest” (a)

'One of the + superlative + plural noun/noun phrase' structure. 'Of any capital' shows a superlative comparison across many cities.