



## Comparatives: Irregular Comparatives & Spelling Rules

Fill in the blank with the correct option.

1. This cake tastes \_\_\_\_ than the one we had yesterday.  
a) best  
b) more good  
c) better  
d) gooder
2. The weather today is \_\_\_\_ than last week.  
a) badder  
b) more bad  
c) worst  
d) worse
3. The hospital is \_\_\_\_ than the school from here.  
a) farther  
b) more far  
c) farthest  
d) farer
4. We need \_\_\_\_ information before we decide.  
a) most  
b) much  
c) more  
d) mucher
5. You should spend \_\_\_\_ time on social media.  
a) littler  
b) least  
c) more little  
d) less
6. My \_\_\_\_ brother is three years older than me.  
a) elder  
b) more old  
c) oldest  
d) old
7. The traffic is getting \_\_\_\_ every year.  
a) worst  
b) worse  
c) more bad  
d) badder
8. This road is \_\_\_\_ than the motorway.  
a) narrow  
b) narrowest  
c) most narrow  
d) narrower
9. She is a \_\_\_\_ worker than her colleague.  
a) harder  
b) hardest  
c) most hard  
d) more hard
10. Your English is \_\_\_\_ than mine.  
a) best  
b) gooder  
c) better  
d) more good
11. This bag is \_\_\_\_ than that suitcase.  
a) most light  
b) lightest  
c) more light  
d) lighter

12. He is \_\_\_ than his father.  
a) cleverly  
c) most clever  
b) cleverer  
d) cleverest
13. I need to do \_\_\_ research on this topic.  
a) more far  
c) further  
b) farer  
d) furthest
14. The bus is \_\_\_ than the train for this journey.  
a) slowest  
c) more slow  
b) most slow  
d) slower
15. The red dress is \_\_\_ than the blue one.  
a) prettiest  
c) more pretty  
b) prettier  
d) prettyer
16. This situation is \_\_\_ than before.  
a) seriouser  
c) most serious  
b) more serious  
d) serioser
17. The path through the park is \_\_\_ than the main road.  
a) quietly  
c) quieter  
b) quietest  
d) most quiet
18. I feel \_\_\_ today than I did yesterday.  
a) worse  
c) worst  
b) badder  
d) more badly
19. The new apartment is \_\_\_ than our old house.  
a) cosier  
c) more cosy  
b) cosyer  
d) cosiest
20. His second novel was even \_\_\_ than his first.  
a) gooder  
c) best  
b) better  
d) more good



## Answers

1. c) better
2. d) worse
3. a) farther
4. c) more
5. d) less
6. a) elder
7. b) worse
8. d) narrower
9. a) harder
10. c) better
11. d) lighter
12. b) cleverer
13. c) further
14. d) slower
15. b) prettier
16. b) more serious
17. c) quieter
18. a) worse
19. a) cosier
20. b) better



# Explanations

## 1. “better” (c)

'Good' has an irregular comparative form: better. We never say 'gooder' or 'more good'.

## 2. “worse” (d)

'Bad' has an irregular comparative form: worse. We never say 'badder' or 'more bad'.

## 3. “farther” (a)

'Far' has an irregular comparative form: farther (or further). Both are correct for physical distance.

## 4. “more” (c)

'Much' and 'many' both use 'more' as their comparative form. We never say 'mucher'.

## 5. “less” (d)

'Little' has an irregular comparative form: less. We never say 'littler' when comparing quantities.

## 6. “elder” (a)

'Elder' is used as an adjective before a noun to describe family members: elder brother, elder sister. We use 'elder' (not 'old') as a pre-noun modifier for family relationships.

## 7. “worse” (b)

'Bad → worse' is an irregular comparative. 'Worst' is the superlative form, not the comparative.

## 8. “narrower” (d)

'Narrow' is a two-syllable adjective ending in -ow, which takes -er: narrower. Adjectives ending in -ow, -er, -le, and -y usually take -er.

## 9. “harder” (a)

'Hard' is a one-syllable adjective, so we add -er: harder. Note that 'hard' can function as both an adjective and an adverb.

## 10. “better” (c)

'Good → better' is one of the most important irregular comparatives in English.

## 11. “lighter” (d)

'Light' is a one-syllable adjective, so we add -er: lighter. Note the spelling: light + er = lighter (no doubling needed because it ends in two consonants).

## 12. “cleverer” (b)

'Clever' is a two-syllable adjective ending in -er, which commonly takes -er: cleverer. This follows the pattern of other two-syllable adjectives ending in -er, -ow, -le.

## 13. “further” (c)

'Further' (from 'far') is used here meaning 'additional' or 'more'. When 'far' means 'additional/extra', we always use 'further', not 'farther'.

## 14. “slower” (d)

'Slow' is a one-syllable adjective, so we add -er: slower.

## 15. “prettier” (b)

'Pretty' ends in a consonant + y. We change y to i and add -er: prettier. This spelling rule applies to all adjectives ending in consonant + y.

**16. “more serious” (b)**

'Serious' has three syllables, so we use 'more + adjective': more serious. Only short adjectives (1-2 syllables) take -er.

**17. “quieter” (c)**

'Quiet' is a two-syllable adjective that commonly takes -er: quieter. Adjectives ending in -et often take -er.

**18. “worse” (a)**

'Bad → worse' is irregular. 'Worst' is the superlative, not the comparative. 'More badly' would modify a verb (adverb), not describe a feeling.

**19. “cosier” (a)**

'Cosy' ends in a consonant + y, so we change y to i and add -er: cosier. The same rule applies to words like easy, happy, and busy.

**20. “better” (b)**

'Good → better → best'. The comparative of 'good' is always 'better'. The word 'even' is a modifier that emphasises the comparison.