



Learning About Suffixes

“er and est”



Suffixes are groups of letters added to the end of other words to make new words. When a suffix is added to a word it changes how that word is used in writing. The suffixes **er** and **est** are added to adjectives or describing words to compare things.

Rules To Remember:

- Rule 1:** The suffix **er** should be used when you are comparing two things.
Example: Susan is **shorter** than Emily.
- Rule 2:** The suffix **est** should be used when you are comparing more than two things.
Example: Megan is the **shortest** girl in our class.
- Rule 3:** For two-syllable words ending in **y** (happy), the **y** should be dropped and an **i** should be added before adding the suffix **est**.
Example: Rosie is the **funniest** cat in my neighborhood.
- Rule 4:** For one-syllable words (fat), the ending consonant should be doubled before adding er or est.
Example: That is the **fattest** bird I have ever seen.
- Rule 5:** Words ending with the letter “e” (late), drop the “e” before adding er or est.
Example: Marge arrived at school **later** than Chrissy.

Use the rules above to add the suffixes *er* and *est* to the words below. Use the suffix in the () after the word. Write the new word on the line.

- 1. thick (er) _____
- 2. tall (est) _____
- 3. silly (est) _____
- 4. long (er) _____
- 5. mad (est) _____
- 6. friendly(er) _____



Name _____ Date _____



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Use the rules you have learned to add the suffixes *er* and *est* to the following words. Use the suffix in the () after the base word. Write the new word on the line.

1. sleepy(est) _____
2. pretty (est) _____
3. soft (er) _____
4. crazy(est) _____
5. loud (er) _____
6. tough (est) _____
7. bright (er) _____
8. sad (er) _____
9. lucky (est) _____
10. nasty (er) _____
11. lazy (est) _____
12. tiny (er) _____
13. scary (est) _____
14. dark (er) _____
15. strong (est) _____
16. weak (er) _____
17. jolly (est) _____
18. fast (er) _____
19. lovely (est) _____
20. sweet (er) _____



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Part A: Complete the chart below adding the suffixes *er* and *est* to the base word. The first one has been done for you.

Base Word	Suffix "er"	Suffix "est"
1. soft	softer	softest
2. cute		
3. old		
4. wet		
5. easy		
6. high		
7. grumpy		
8. thin		
9. smart		
10. big		



Part B: Write the correct form of the adjectives below on the lines. Read the sentence carefully.

- Mark is _____ in math than Becky is.
smarter smartest
- Addition is _____ than subtraction to me.
easier easiest
- That is the _____ snake I have ever seen.
longer longest
- Shelby's cat is the _____ I know.
faster fastest
- Brent's story is _____ than my story.
shorter shortest
- Susan's story was the _____ of all.
funnier funniest
- Claire's flowers are _____ than my flowers.
prettier prettiest
- Pluto is the _____ dog in our neighborhood.
larger largest

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Read each of the following sentences. Choose the correct word and write it on the line. Please write neatly.

1. Glenn is the _____ player on the team.
faster fastest
2. I have four cats, and Missy is the _____ of them.
sweeter sweetest
3. Shari is in the tenth grade, and is _____ than Gail.
older oldest
4. Mrs. Taylor is the _____ teacher in our school.
nicer nicest
5. My poem was _____ than Betsy's poem.
longer longest
6. Kim is _____ than Lesley.
taller tallest
7. Joe's mother was the _____ at us for what we did.
madder maddest
8. Susan is _____ than Bill.
friendlier friendliest
9. Harry's book is _____ than mine.
shorter shortest
10. That was the _____ movie I have ever seen.
scarier scariest
11. Matt's cupcake is _____ than mine.
bigger biggest
12. Louie has the _____ desk in our room.
smaller smallest
13. Ken played the drums the _____ in the parade.
louder loudest
14. Millie has the _____ baby brother.
cuter cutest





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It's a Quiz!

Circle the letter in front of the correct answer.

1. I liked the poem Grant read because it's the _____.
a. **funniest** b. **funnier** c. **funnyest**
2. I am the _____ person in my gym class.
a. **weaker** b. **weakest** c. **weakest**
3. Mark is the _____ runner on the baseball team.
a. **faster** b. **fastest** c. **fasterest**
4. My blanket is _____ than Ginger's blanket.
a. **softer** b. **softiest** c. **softest**
5. Who has the _____ grades in your class?
a. **higher** b. **highiest** c. **highest**
6. That was the _____ story I ever read.
a. **saddest** b. **sadder** c. **sadest**
7. Kendra's story was _____ than Adam's story.
a. **longiest** b. **longer** c. **longest**
8. Is your room _____ than my room?
a. **colder** b. **coldest** c. **coldier**
9. Jacob is the _____ person I know.
a. **luckyest** b. **luckier** c. **luckiest**
10. Is Mike the _____ person in your family?
a. **strongiest** b. **strongest** c. **stronger**
11. I was the _____ after we played in the rain.
a. **wettiest** b. **wetter** c. **wettest**
12. That test was _____ than the one we had last week.
a. **easier** b. **easyiest** c. **easiest**
13. Rebecca is _____ than Leah.
a. **kindest** b. **kindiest** c. **kinder**
14. The sun was _____ today than yesterday.
a. **brightest** b. **brighter** c. **brightiest**



Name _____ Date _____

Answers to Learning About Suffixes
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- Page 1:
- | | | | |
|----|----------|----|------------|
| 1. | thicker | 4. | longest |
| 2. | tallest | 5. | maddest |
| 3. | silliest | 6. | friendlier |

- Page 2:
- | | | | |
|-----|-----------|-----|-----------|
| 1. | sleepiest | 11. | laziest |
| 2. | prettiest | 12. | tinier |
| 3. | softer | 13. | scariest |
| 4. | craziest | 14. | darker |
| 5. | louder | 15. | strongest |
| 6. | toughest | 16. | weaker |
| 7. | brighter | 17. | jolliest |
| 8. | sadder | 18. | faster |
| 9. | luckiest | 19. | loveliest |
| 10. | nastier | 20. | sweeter |

- Page 3:
- Part A:
- | | | |
|-----|----------|-----------|
| 1. | softer | softest |
| 2. | cuter | cutest |
| 3. | older | oldest |
| 4. | wetter | wettest |
| 5. | easier | easiest |
| 6. | higher | highest |
| 7. | grumpier | grumpiest |
| 8. | thinner | thinnest |
| 9. | smarter | smartest |
| 10. | bigger | biggest |

- Part B:
- | | | | |
|----|---------|----|----------|
| 1. | smarter | 5. | shorter |
| 2. | easier | 6. | funniest |
| 3. | longest | 7. | prettier |
| 4. | fastest | 8. | largest |

- Page 4:
- | | | | |
|----|----------|-----|------------|
| 1. | fastest | 8. | friendlier |
| 2. | sweetest | 9. | shorter |
| 3. | older | 10. | scariest |
| 4. | nicest | 11. | bigger |
| 5. | longer | 12. | smallest |
| 6. | taller | 13. | loudest |
| 7. | maddest | 14. | cutest |

- Page 5:
- | | | | |
|----|---|-----|---|
| 1. | a | 8. | a |
| 2. | c | 9. | c |
| 3. | b | 10. | b |
| 4. | a | 11. | c |
| 5. | c | 12. | a |
| 6. | a | 13. | c |
| 7. | b | 14. | b |