



## SUPERLATIVES

- Wentworth: These days, we're hearing a lot about offences committed by the young... This is quite disturbing
- Sarah: I heard of a case which is, I think, the trickiest to judge. A teen tried to kill herself and her baby. She couldn't provide for their needs and was obviously very depressed.
- Wentworth: Sadly, this isn't the first time I've heard such a story. People in predicaments tend to choose the most tragic or lethal option. Under these circumstances, I'm happy not to be a judge or part of a jury. They have a very difficult task to handle. What does this young lady need? What should the judge sentence her?
- Sarah: Probably some prison or suspended sentence. In my opinion, she needs counseling too; I mean some psychological support to pull herself together. Maybe after prison, she should do some community service in solidarity organizations for single parent family. She shouldn't pay a fine since she has very little financial means.
- Wentworth: What if she had been an underage drug addict and her baby had died. Would you still consider the same sentence?
- Sarah: Probably not. She would go to a young offender facility until she is of age, and then serve a prison term. That would be fair.
- Wentworth: Well, I'm not sure if justice is fair but it is the most reasonable institution in our society. Everyone must abide by the rules
- Sarah: Thanks. Otherwise, it would be chaos everywhere.
- Wentworth: Right. In a nutshell, some people deserve prison, some deserve to go free. Some must pay a fine and some must do community service. We must all respect each other so that we can all live together.



	counseling
These days	support
To hear/heard/heard about...	'To pull oneself together'
An offence	Community service
To commit	An organisation
The young= the youth	Single-parent
quite	SINCE
disturbing	A fine
A case	A means
Tricky= difficult	'What if... ?'
To judge	HAD + Past participle =pluperfect
A teen= a teenager	underage
To try	An addict
To kill one's self	To die
Could= past form of 'CAN'	still
To provide for	To consider
obviously	A sentence
(very) depressed	would

SADLY	A young offender facility
The first time	until
Such a story	Of age
A predicament	then
To tend to (v)	To serve a prison term
To choose	fair
The most	Reasonable=sensible
lethal	To abide by the law
'Under these circumstances'	OTHERWISE
A judge	Chaos
To be part of (the jury)	EVERYWHERE
A task	'in a nutshell'
To handle	To deserve
A lady	To go free
should	Each other
To sentence	'so that...'
probably	all
Suspended sentence	To live together



## Grammar: SUPERLATIVES

We use the superlative form when we compare all elements and one has the great amount of the quality referred to.

Example:

This is the most expensive car.

This is the shortest route

Russia is the biggest country in the world.

This is the smallest

### 1/ The regular forms of superlatives

#### a) Long adjectives

[As a reminder, consider long adjectives with two or more syllables (not ending in Y)]

The regular form of superlatives for long adjectives consists of:

THE MOST + long adjective

Example:

Kindness is the most important quality

This couch is the most comfortable

He is the most famous athlete in his country

#### a) Short adjectives

The regular form of superlatives for short adjectives consists of :

THE + short adjective + EST

Example:

She is the prettiest woman

Our car is the fastest

#### c) 3 letter monosyllables

a monosyllable here is a 3letter word (consonant+vowel+consonant). Example: big/fat/sad/wet

Like comparatives, superlatives of such monosyllables will double the last consonant and add –EST.

Example:

They are the fattest dogs

It is the biggest mistake

#### d) Exceptions

Adjective/adverb	comparative	superlative	example
Good/ well	better	<b>THE BEST</b>	This is my best friend
Bad /badly	worse	<b>THE WORST</b>	This is you worst nightmare
far	The further/ the farther	<b>THE FARTHEST</b>	This is the furthest city
little	less	<b>THE LEAST</b>	This the least we can do



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e) Two types of comparison

**Comparison between 2 elements** will call for comparatives.

Example:

I have two daughters: Jenna and Tamzin. Jenna is the better at maths

**Comparison between all existing elements** will call for superlatives.

Example:

In my class, there are 30 students: the best at writing is Matthew