



SUPERLATIVES

Glossary :

	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

b) 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	THE BEST	This is my best friend
Bad /badly	worse	THE WORST	This is you worst nightmare
far	The further/ the farther	THE FARTHEST	This is the furthest city
little	less	THE LEAST	This the least we can do

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



Dialogue :

- 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.