

Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics Worksheet #33

FOCUS Long and “__ly” Comparative Modifiers

Both **long** and “__ly” **comparative modifiers** use *more* (*less*) for a three-syllable or longer modifier to compare two things.

Example: delicious—*more* or *less* delicious

CONNECT TO WRITING

A modifier describes the meaning of another word or words and makes it more specific or limits its meaning or meanings.

Example: I ate the *delicious* cake. The word *delicious* is a modifier, making *cake* more specific.

Some long comparative modifiers are adjectives. Adjectives modify a proper noun, a common noun, or a pronoun and answer Which one? How many? or What kind?

Example: intelligent—The *intelligent* man was *more intelligent* than his father.

Some long comparative modifiers are adverbs. Adverbs modify a verb or another adverb and answer What degree? How? Where? or When? Use *more* or *less* for adverbs ending in “__ly.”

Example: angrily—She argued *angrily*—even *more angrily* than her mother.

PRACTICE

Cross out any misused comparative modifiers, and write the correct form above each error.

1. Geometry seems *difficulter* than algebra.
2. Tina did an *outstandinger* job than she had predicted.
3. Saying which one was the most incredible of the two was hard.
4. That behavior is most ridiculous than ever.
5. Of the two girls who are not here, the first one is least suspiciously absent.
6. The detective most suspected the blonde, rather than the brunette woman.
7. She acted least nervously than the other athlete.

WRITE

Write your own sentence with a three-syllable *more* modifier. Don't use any modifiers found on this worksheet.

Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics Worksheet Answers

Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics Worksheet #31 Practice Answers

1. closer 2. harder 3. more 4. worse 5. happier

Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics Worksheet #32 Practice Answers

1. quickest 2. more 3. biggest 4. best

Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics Worksheet #33 Practice Answers

1. more (less) difficult 2. more outstanding 3. more (less) incredible
4. more ridiculous 5. more (less) suspiciously 6. more (less) suspected 7. more (less) nervously

Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics Worksheet #34 Practice Answers

1. most considerate 2. least specifically 3. most carefully 4. most understood
5. most simply 6. least frequently

Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics Worksheet #35 Practice Answers

was LV; had HV told; were HV going; did HV not turn LV; to be LV; would HV not have HV
lied; felt LV; had HV; would HV be LV; seems LV; should HV find

Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics Worksheet #36 Practice Answers

1. permission 2. possibility 3. requirement 4. need 5. expectation 6. ability
7. advice

Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics Worksheet #37 Practice Answers

1. Penny helped at the senior center after school. 2. Cowboys roped and branded their cattle.
3. That radio station played all of my favorite songs. 4. Tamesia touched her left cheek every
time she raised her hand in class.

Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics Worksheet #38 Practice Answers

1. Larry was enjoying the beautiful sunsets at the beach. 2. They were expecting a lot of money
for their used car. 3. Her friends were sleeping in the living room when the fire alarm sounded.
4. Rosie was going to the movies.