

Comparison of Adjectives

CHAPTER IV – BUSINESS ENGLISH

WHAT IS AN ADJECTIVE?

Word that modifies noun or pronoun

Modifier → describes the meaning of the word it refers to

Two types: Irregular and Regular adjectives

Three forms: Positive, comparative, and superlative

POSITIVE FORM

The adjective itself

Used when there is no direct comparison to anything specific

Describes a noun/pronoun

Example: Louis is tall. Emma is smart.

COMPARATIVE FORM

Used when we compare two persons/things with each other

1.) -er → most adjectives with one syllable; such as: fast – faster; kind – kinder; adjectives ending with -y, the letter changed to -i → happy – happier

2.) more → before adjectives with 2 or more syllables; beautiful – more beautiful, complex – more complex

SUPERLATIVE FORM

Used when we compare 3 or more persons/things to say what thing or person has the most of particular quality within a group of its kind

1.) –est → one syllable adjectives; fast-faster-the fastest, kind-kinder-the kindest, big-bigger-the biggest;

–y changed to –i; happy-happier-the happiest

2.) most → before adjectives with 2 or more syllables; beautiful-more beautiful-the most beautiful

EXCEPTIONS

Irregular adjectives are changed in all the three adjective forms

Good – better – the best; bad – worse – the worst; little-less-the least

SPECIAL ADJECTIVES → both forms of the comparative and superlative can be used

quiet – quieter/more quiet – the quietest/the most quiet; simple-simpler/more simple – the simplest/most simple

FORMS OF COMPARISON

As...as → use it when there are no differences between the two things/persons; use the positive form of the adjective

EXAMPLE: Danny is as smart as Janet. Marketing is as important as manufacturing.

Not as...as → use it when we indicate that the compared things/persons are NOT similar; use the positive form of the adjective

EXAMPLE: Danny is not as smart as Janet. Marketing is not as important as manufacturing.

...than... → use it to compare 2 things; use the comparative form of the adjective

EXAMPLE: Danny is smarter than Janet. Marketing is more important than manufacturing.

MISTAKES TO AVOID

DON'T combine two forms for the comparative or superlative
Use either MORE or –ER but NEVER BOTH big-bigger (not MORE bigger)

DON'T use the superlative when comparing two people or things
The larger of the two cars was damaged. (NOT the largest)



THANK YOU
FOR YOUR
ATTENTION!