

ADJECTIVE AND ADVERB DEGREE REVIEW

A. Comparison of Adjectives

3 degrees: positive, comparative, superlative (brave, braver, bravest)

1. Comparative

drop gen. sg. ending --> stem + **-ior** (M&F) **-ius** (N)

validus, -a, -um	valid/ī	validior, validius
fortis, -e	fort/is	fortior, fortius

- declined like 3rd declension adjectives but w/ **-um** in gen. pl. instead of **-ium** and with **-a** in neuter nom/acc. pl instead of **-ia** (not like an i-stem)
- o-** is lengthened

sing.		pl.	
fortior	fortius	fortiōrēs	fortiōra
fortiōris	fortiōris	fortiōrum	fortiōrum
fortiōrī	fortiōrī	fortiōribus	fortiōribus
fortiōrem	fortius	fortiōrēs (-īs)	fortiōra
fortiōre (-ī)	fortiōre (-ī)	fortiōribus	fortiōribus

2. Superlative

most adjectives form superlative by adding **-issimus, -a, -um** to stem of positive

validissimus, -a, -um	declined like first-second declension adj.
fortissimus, -a, -um	

adjectives which end in **-er** in masc. nom. sg. of positive degree form superlative by adding **-rimus, -a, -um** to masc. nom. form

ācer, ācris, ācre	ācerrimus, -a, -um
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6 adjectives which end in **-lis** in masc/fem nom sg. of positive degree form superlative by adding **-limus, -a, -um** to stem of positive degree

facilis, -e	<i>easy</i>	facillimus, -a, -um	<i>easiest</i>
difficilis, -e	<i>difficult</i>		
similis, -e	<i>similar</i>		
dissimilis, -e	<i>unlike</i>		
gracilis, -e	<i>slender</i>		
humilis, -e	<i>humble, low</i>		

3. Quam + Superlative

quam + adj/adv. in superlative degree = "as....as possible"

Quam fortissimus est. *He is as brave as possible.*

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B. Irregular Comparison of Adjectives

five common adjectives with irregular comparisons

POSITIVE	COMPARATIVE	SUPERLATIVE
bonus, -a, -um <i>good</i>	melior, melius <i>better</i>	optimus, -a, -um <i>best</i>
malus, -a, -um <i>bad</i>	peior, peius <i>worse</i>	pessimus, -a, -um <i>worst</i>
magnus, -a, -um <i>great</i>	maior, maius <i>greater</i>	maximus, -a, -um <i>greatest</i>
parvus, -a, -um <i>small</i>	minor, minus <i>smaller</i>	minimus, -a, -um <i>smallest</i>
multus, -a, -um <i>much</i>	plūs (neut. only in sg) plūrēs, plūra (pl.) <i>more</i>	plūrimus, -a, -um <i>most, very many</i>

C. Adverbs and Their Comparison

1. most adverbs are formed from adj.

a) from adj of 1st and 2nd declensions, stem + **-ē**

miser, misera, miserum	miserē
<i>poor</i>	<i>poorly</i>

b) for 3rd declension adj, stem + **-iter**

fortis, -e	fortiter
<i>strong</i>	<i>strongly, bravely</i>

(not all formed this way, no way to determine whether it follows the rules or no; vocab items)

2. Comparative Degree

- adding **-ius** to stem of positive degree of adjective (= neut. sg. comparative of adj)

fortiter	fortius
<i>bravely</i>	<i>more bravely, rather bravely, too bravely</i>
facile	facilius
<i>easily</i>	<i>more easily, rather easily, too easily</i>
miserē	miserius
<i>poorly</i>	<i>more poorly, rather poorly, too poorly</i>

3. Superlative Degree

- stem of positive degree adj + (**-issimē, -rimē, -limē**)

fortissimē	<i>most bravely</i>
facillimē	<i>most easily</i>
miserrimē	<i>most poorly</i>
quam miserrimē	<i>as poorly as possible</i>

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D. Irregular Comparison of Adverbs

POSITIVE	COMPARATIVE	SUPERLATIVE
bene	melius	optimē
<i>well</i>	<i>better</i>	<i>best</i>
male	peius	pessimē
<i>badly</i>	<i>worse</i>	<i>worst</i>
magnopere	magis	maximē
<i>greatly</i>	<i>more</i>	<i>most, especially</i>
parum	minus	minimē
<i>not enough</i>	<i>less</i>	<i>least</i>
multum	plūs	plūrimum
<i>much</i>	<i>more</i>	<i>most</i>
diū	diūtius	diūtissimē
<i>long (in time), for a long time</i>	<i>longer</i>	<i>longest</i>
saepe	saepius	saepissimē
<i>often</i>	<i>more often</i>	<i>most often</i>
---	prius	prīmum
	<i>before</i>	<i>first</i>
prope	propius	proximē
<i>near</i>	<i>nearer</i>	<i>nearest, next</i>