

B1. Parachutes

superlatives

On a flight on a small private plane, a doctor, a lawyer, a model, and an old lady with her grandson were the only passengers. Unfortunately, the plane developed engine trouble. The pilot went back to speak to the passengers.

'I have good news and bad news,' he said. 'The bad news is that the plane is going to crash, but the good news is that we have some parachutes. However, there are six people on this plane and we only have five parachutes. As you can see, I'm wearing mine right now.'

With that, the pilot jumped out of the plane, pulled the cord for his parachute and disappeared from view. The doctor spoke up first.

'Well, my job is saving lives and that's **one of the most important jobs in the world**, so I should have one of the parachutes', and she took a pack and jumped.

Next was the lawyer.

'I'm **the most intelligent man in the world**, so I should have one, too,' he said, and he took a pack and leapt from the plane. Then the model stood up.

'I'm **one of the most beautiful women in the world**, so I think I should have one as well.'

Sadly, the grandmother turned to her grandson.

'Well, there's only one left. I think you should have it, dear. I've already had **the best years of my life**.'

'Oh, don't worry, grandma,' said the boy, '**The most intelligent man in the world** just jumped out of the plane with my back pack.'



Grammar: superlatives

For short adjectives, use **the + adjective + -est** to form the superlative.

Where is **the longest river** in the world?

It was **the hottest day** of the year.

For longer adjectives use **the most + adjective** to form the superlative:

It was **the most interesting place** I've ever been to.

What's **the most expensive thing** you've ever bought?

After superlatives use **in** for places.

It's one of **the most important jobs in the world**.

After superlatives use **of** for periods of time.

It's **the best time of your life**.

Complete these sentences with an adjective in the superlative form.

intelligent cold long dangerous difficult

- The mosquito is one of _____ animals in the world.
- I think this is _____ water I've ever swum in.
- He's not exactly stupid. In fact, I think he's _____ person I know.
- Although the exam wasn't very easy, it wasn't _____ exam I've ever taken either.
- We had the party at midsummer, on _____ day of the year.

Choose the correct preposition to complete these sentences.

- Everest is the highest mountain **in / of** the world.
- August is usually the hottest month **in / of** the year in my city.
- This is one of the most interesting monuments **in / of** the country.
- Who is the most intelligent person **in / of** the whole class?
- Lee Marshal has been one of the best players **in / of** the season.

Vocabulary exercises

Choose the correct word to complete these definitions.

doctor lawyer pilot model passenger

- A _____ is someone who practices medicine.
- A _____ is a person who shows clothes by wearing them.
- A _____ is somebody who travels without driving.
- A _____ is the person who controls a plane.
- A _____ is a person who practises or studies law.

There is a mistake in every sentence. Find it and correct it.

6. Knowing how to use a parachute can safe your life.
7. The balloon went up into the air and disappeared in view
8. I need a new pencil because, as you can watch, mine is broken.
9. I went to the shop to buy the DVD and there was only one leave.
10. I asked them for help and Dave said up first.

ANSWERS