

## COMPARATIVE AND SUPERLATIVE ADJECTIVES

### Acceptable ways of translating the comparative (let the context guide your translation)

- \_\_\_\_er (e.g., *angrier*)
- more \_\_\_\_ (e.g., *more difficult*)
- rather \_\_\_\_ (e.g., *rather angry*)
- too \_\_\_\_ (e.g., *too difficult*)

### Acceptable ways of translating the superlative (let the context guide your translation)

- \_\_\_\_est (e.g., *angriest*)
- most \_\_\_\_ (e.g., *most difficult*)
- very \_\_\_\_ (e.g., *very angry*)

### **To form the comparative, take the stem of the adjective and add *-ior* (m/f), *-ius* (n)**

(To find the stem of the adjective, remove the ending from the genitive singular)

Examples:	M/F	N	
<i>longus, -a, -um:</i>	longior,	longius	"longer, rather long, too long"
<i>miser, misera, miserum:</i>	miserior,	miserius	"more miserable, rather miserable, too miserable"
<i>fortis, -is, -e:</i>	fortior,	fortius	"stronger, rather strong, too strong"
<i>celer, celeris, celere:</i>	celerior,	celerius	"faster, rather fast, too fast"
<i>acer, acris, acre</i>	acrior,	acrius	"sharper, rather sharp, too sharp"
<i>ingens, ingentis:</i>	ingentior,	ingentius	"huger, rather huge, too huge"
<i>procax, procācis:</i>	procācior,	prōcācius	"more insolent, rather insolent, too insolent"
<i>audax, audacis:</i>	audacior,	audacius	"bolder, rather bold, too bold"

### **To form the superlative, take the stem of the adjective and add *-issimus, -a, -um***

*longus, -a, -um:* longissimus, -a, -um "happiest, very happy"

### **Exception #1: All adjectives that end in *-er* will have superlatives ending in *-errimus, -a, -um***

*miser, misera, miserum:* miserrimus, -a, -um "most miserable, very miserable"

### **Exception #2: Six adjectives ending in *-lis* will have superlatives ending in *-illimus, -a, -um***

*facilis, -is, -e:* facillimus, -a, -um "easiest, very easy"

The six adjectives that do this are: *facilis, difficilis, similis, dissimilis, humilis, gracilis*

### **The following adjectives have irregular comparatives and/or superlatives:**

bonus, -a, -um	melior, melius	optimus, -a, -um	<i>good, better, best</i>
malus, -a, -um	peior, peius	pessimus, -a, -um	<i>bad, worse, worst</i>
magnus, -a, -um	maior, maius	maximus, -a, -um	<i>big, bigger, biggest</i>
parvus, -a, -um	minor, minus	minimus, -a, -um	<i>small, smaller, smallest</i>
multus, -a, -um	plūs* (not an adj.)	plūrimus, -a, -um	<i>much, more, very much</i>
multī, -ae, -a	plūrēs, plūra	plūrīmī, -ae, -a	<i>many, more, most</i>