

3.4 Personal Pronouns

Personal pronouns can be divided into three groups: **first person**, **second person**, and **third person**.

To replace the name of the person who is speaking, use **first person** pronouns. This includes the pronouns **I**, **me**, **my**, **mine**, **we**, **us**, **our**, and **ours**.



I found a dime in the yard.

That book is **mine**.

Our house is white

To replace the name of the person spoken to, use **second person** pronouns. This includes the pronouns **you**, **your**, and **yours**.

You found a dime in the yard.

That book is **yours**.

Your house is white.

To replace the name of the person, place, or thing we are speaking about, use **third person** pronouns. This includes the pronouns **he, him, his, she, her, hers, it, its, they, them, their,** and **theirs**.

He found a dime in the yard.

That book is **hers**.

Their house is white.

The noun or nouns that a pronoun refers to are called the **antecedent(s)**.

Charles washed **his** bike.

The **woman** lost **her** keys.

In the first sentence, **Charles** is the antecedent of the pronoun **his**. In the second sentence, **woman** is the antecedent of the pronoun **her**.

6.4 Adverbs that Compare

Many **adverbs** can be used to compare actions. As with adjectives, with adverbs there are three degrees of comparison: **positive** (the simple quality), **comparative** (with one of two objects), and **superlative** (with one of more than two objects).

The endings **-er** or **-est** are added to show comparison with most one-syllable adverbs. **More** and **most** are often used with most adverbs of two or more syllables.

When comparing **two** actions, in the comparative degree, the ending **-er** is added to most one-syllable adverbs. Add the word **more** before most adverbs of two or more syllables.



Adam runs **faster** than Sandy.

Xavier sleds **more carefully** than his sister.

In the first sentence, we are comparing the actions of **Adam** and **Sandy**. The adverb **faster** describes how Adam runs compared to Sandy. In the second sentence, we are comparing the actions of **Xavier** and his **sister**. **More carefully** describes how Xavier sleds compared to his sister.

When comparing **three** or **more** actions, in the superlative degree, the ending **-est** is typically used with most one-syllable adverbs. Add the word **most** before most adverbs of two or more syllables.

Amy tries **hardest** of the entire team.

Brett waits **most patiently** of all the boys.

In the first sentence, we are comparing the actions of **Amy** and **the entire team**. The adverb **hardest** describes how Amy tries compared to the team. In the second sentence, we are comparing the actions of **Brett** and **all the boys**. **Most patiently** describes how Brett waits compared to the boys.

More examples:

<u>Positive</u>	<u>Comparative</u>	<u>Superlative</u>
fast	faster	fastest
late	later	latest
high	higher	highest
loudly	more loudly	most loudly
softly	more softly	most softly

Some adverbs are irregular and change their spelling when used to compare.

<u>Positive</u>	<u>Comparative</u>	<u>Superlative</u>
well	better	best
badly	worse	worst
far	farther	farthest
little	less	least

Do not add **-er** to an adverb at the same time you use **more**.

Incorrect: Sam arrived more later than I did.

Correct: Sam arrived **later** than I did.

Also, do not add **-est** to an adverb at the same time you use **most**.

Incorrect: A cheetah runs most swiftest of all cats.

Correct: A cheetah runs **most swiftly** of all cats.

Also, don't use **-est** or **most** when comparing two actions.

Incorrect: Of the two, William whistled most loud.

Incorrect: Of the two, William whistled loudest.

Correct: Of the two, William whistled **louder**.