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Reading Selection 4.1

Lesson No. 10

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Determination

ثابت قدمی

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In 1883, a creative engineer named John Roebling was inspired by an idea to build a spectacular bridge connecting New York with the Long Island. However, bridge building experts throughout the world thought that this was an impossible feat and told Roebling to forget the idea. It just could not be done. It was not practical. It had never been done before.

1883ء میں ایک تخلیقی ذہن رکھنے والے انجینئر جان روبلنگ کے ذہن میں یہ خیال آیا کہ وہ ایک ایسا عظیم الشان پل بنائے جو نیویورک کو لانگ آئی لینڈ کے ساتھ جوڑ دے۔ تاہم دنیا بھر کے پل کے تعمیراتی ماہرین کا خیال تھا کہ یہ ایک ناممکن کام تھا اور انہوں نے روبلنگ کو بتایا کہ وہ اس خیال کو بھول جائے۔ یہ بالکل نہیں کیا جاسکتا۔ یہ عملی طور پر ممکن نہ تھا۔ اس سے پہلے بھی ایسا کام کبھی نہیں کیا گیا تھا۔

Roebling could not ignore the vision of the bridge he had in his mind. He thought about it all the time and he knew deep in his heart that it could be done. He just had to share the dream with someone else. After much discussion and persuasion, he managed to convince his son Washington budding engineer, that the bridge in fact could be built.

روبلنگ اپنے ذہن میں موجود پل کے تصور کو نظر انداز نہ کر سکا، وہ ہر وقت اس کے متعلق سوچتا تھا۔ اور دل ہی دل میں اُسے پختہ یقین تھا کہ یہ کام کیا جاسکتا ہے۔ اُسے صرف اپنا یہ خواب کسی دوسرے انسان کو بتانا تھا، کافی بحث اور آمادگی کے بعد وہ اپنے اچھوتے ہوئے انجینئر بیٹے واشنگٹن کو قائل کرنے میں کامیاب ہوا کہ حقیقت میں پل تعمیر کیا جاسکتا ہے۔

Working together for the first time, the father and son developed concepts of how it could be accomplished and how the obstacles could be overcome. With great excitement and inspiration and the headiness of a wild challenge before them, they hired their crew and began to build their dream bridge.

پہلی دفعہ کٹھا کام کرتے ہوئے، باپ اور بیٹے نے ان نظریات پر کام کیا کہ اس منصوبے کو کس طرح پایا تکمیل تک پہنچایا جاسکتا تھا اور اس کی راہ میں حائل رکاوٹوں پر کس طرح قابو پایا جاسکتا تھا۔ پورے جوش و جذبے اور اپنے سامنے موجود اس عظیم چیلنج کے جذبے کے تحت انہوں نے عملے کی خدمات حاصل کیں اور اپنے خوابوں کے پل کی تعمیر شروع کر دی۔

The project started well but when it was only a few months underway a tragic accident on the site took the life of John Roebling. Washington was injured and left with a certain amount of brain damage, which resulted in him not being able to walk, talk or even move.

منصوبے کا آغاز بہت اچھے طریقے سے ہوا۔ لیکن چند مہینے جاری رہنے کے بعد کام کے مقام پر ایک افسوسناک حادثے نے جان روبلنگ کی جان لے لی۔ واشنگٹن زخمی ہوا اور اس کے دماغ کا کچھ حصہ متاثر ہوا جس کی وجہ سے وہ چلنے پھرنے، بات کرنے یا حتیٰ کہ حرکت کرنے کے قابل بھی نہ رہا۔

"We told them so"

"Crazy men and their crazy dreams!" "It's foolish to chase wild visions"

"ہم نے اسے ایسا ہی بتایا"

"پاگل لوگوں کے پاگل خواب! ناممکن تصورات کے پیچھے دوڑنا بے وقوفی ہے"

Everyone had a negative comment to make and felt that the project should be scrapped since the Roeblings were the only ones who knew how the badge could be built, In spite of his handicap, Washington was never discouraged and still had a burning desire to complete the bridge and his mind was still as sharp as ever

ہر ایک شخص اس کے متعلق منفی خیالات رکھتا تھا اور محسوس کرتا تھا کہ اس منصوبے کو ترک کیا جانا چاہئے کہ صرف روبلنگ اور اس کا بیٹا یہ سمجھتے تھے کہ یہ پل کس طرح تعمیر کیا جاسکتا تھا۔ اپنی معذوری کے باوجود واشنگٹن نے کبھی بھی ہمت نہ ہاری اور اب بھی اس کی شدید خواہش تھی کہ پل کو مکمل کیا جائے اور اس کا ذہن اب بھی پہلے کی طرح تیز تھا۔

He tried to inspire and pass on his enthusiasm to some of his friends but they were too daunted by the task. As he lay on his bed in his hospital room, with the sunlight streaming through the windows, a gentle breeze blew the flimsy white curtains apart and he was able to see the sky and the tops of the trees outside for just a moment

اس نے اپنے کچھ دوستوں کو جذبہ دلانے اور اپنا جوش و جذبہ دکھانے کی کوشش کی، لیکن وہ اس کام سے بہت خوفزدہ ہوئے۔ جوں ہی وہ ہسپتال کے کمرے میں اپنے یڈ پر پڑا تھا، اور سورج کی روشنی کھڑکیوں میں سے اندر آرہی تھی، نرم ہوانے بس سفید باریک پردوں کی طرف ہٹا دیا اور اس نے ایک لمحے کے لیے باہر آسمانوں درختوں کے سروں کو دیکھا۔

It seemed that there was a message for him not to give up Suddenly an idea hit him All he could do was move one finger and he decided to make the best use of it. By moving his finger, he slowly developed a code of communication with his wife

ایسا دکھائی دیا کہ اس میں اس کے لیے ہمت نہ ہارنے کا پیغام موجود تھا۔ اچانک اس کے ذہن میں ایک خیال آیا۔ جو کچھ وہ کر سکتا تھا وہ صرف انگلی کو حرکت دینا تھا۔ اور اس نے اس سے کام لینے کا فیصلہ کیا۔ اپنی انگلی کو حرکت دینے سے اس نے رختہ رختہ اپنی بیوی کو خبر پہنچانے یا بات کرنے کا کوڈ (طریقہ) بنایا۔

He touched his wife's arm with that finger, indicating to her that he wanted her to call the engineers again Then he used the same method of tapping her arm to tell the engineers what to do It seemed foolish but the project was under way again

وہ اپنی بیوی کا بازو اس انگلی سے چھوتا تھا یہ بتانے کے لئے کہ وہ انجینئروں کو دوبارہ بلائے۔ اور پھر وہ اس کے بازو کو تھپکی دینے کا وہی طریقہ استعمال کیا کرتا تھا کہ وہ انجینئروں کو بتائے کہ انہیں کیا کرنا ہے۔ یہ طریقہ بہت بے وقوفانہ عمل معلوم ہوتا تھا مگر منصوبہ دوبارہ شروع ہوا۔

For 13 years Washington tapped out his instructions with his finger on his wife's arm until the bridge was finally completed. Today the spectacular Brooklyn Bridge stands in all its glory as a tribute to the triumph of one man's indomitable spirit and his determination not to be defeated by circumstances.

تیرہ سال تک واشنگٹن اپنی بیوی کے بازو کو اپنی انگلی سے تھپکی دے کر ہدایت دیتا رہا یہاں تک کہ پل آخر کار مکمل ہو گیا۔
 آج بروک لین کا یہ عظیم الشان پل ایک باہمت شخص کے حالات سے شکست نہ کھائے والے ہونے والے
 جذبے اور عزم کو خراج تحسین پیش کرتے ہوئے پوری شان و شوکت کے ساتھ قائم و دائم ہے۔

It is also a tribute to the engineers and their team work and to their faith in a man who was considered mad by half the world. It stands too as a tangible monument to the love and devotion of his wife who for 13 long years patiently decoded the messages of her husband and told the engineers what to do.

یہ ان انجینئروں اور ان کے مشترکہ کام کے لئے خراج تحسین ہیں اور ایک ایسے شخص پر یقین رکھنے کے لیے بھی جس کو آدھی دنیا پاگل سمجھتی تھی۔ یہ اس کی بیوی کی محبت اور اخلاص کی ایک حقیقی یادگار کے طور پر کھڑا ہے جس نے
 تیرہ سال تک پورے صبر کے ساتھ اپنے شوہر کے پیغامات کو انجینئروں تک پہنچایا کہ انہیں کیا کرنا ہے۔

Perhaps this is one of the best examples of a never-say-die attitude that overcomes a terrible physical handicap and achieves an impossible goal.

شاید یہ نہ مرنے رویے کی مثالوں میں سے ایک بہترین مثال ہے کہ جس نے خوفناک جسمانی معذوری پر کال باکر ایک
 ناممکن مقصد کو حاصل کیا۔

New Vocabulary

Words	Meanings
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Breeze	A gentle or light wind
Budding	At an early stage of development but showing promise or potential
Concept	An idea, esp an abstract idea; conception, notion
Crew	The men who man a ship, boat, aircraft
Daunted	To intimidate; to frighten off; to scare; to deter; discourage
Devotion	Strong attachment or affection for a cause, a person marked by dedicated loyalty
Feat	A remarkable, skillful or daring action; exploit; achievement
Filmsy	Not strong or substantial; fragile; light and thin; unconvincing or inadequate
Headiness	Rashness; impetuosity; extreme excitement
Indomitable	Difficult or impossible to defeat or subdue; invincible; resolute, steadfast; unyielding; unflinching
Long Island	An island in SE New York State
Monument	Something that is erected in commemoration of a person or event or in celebration of something
Obstacles	A person or thing that opposes or hinders: hurdles
Persuasion	The act of inducing, urging or prevailing on successfully
Spectacular	Impressive grand or dramatic; breath-taking dazzling
Tangible	Real; something that can be touched or felt: having a physical existence,

To decode	To convert a message from code into ordinary language
To inspire	To exert a stimulating or beneficial effect upon; to spur; to stimulate; to excite; to enkindle

To scrap	To abandon; discard; ditch
To stream	To move in unbroken succession like a trail of light or stream of water
To tap out	To produce by striking lightly something, like a table
Tribute	A gift or statement in acknowledgment, gratitude or admiration

STUDY QUESTIONS

Recalling

1. **What two cities John. Roebling thought of connecting through the bridge?**

Ans: John Roebling thought of connecting New York with the Long Island through a spectacular suspension bridge spanning the East River

2. **What did the bridge building engineer throughout the world think of Roebling's plan?**

Ans: The Bridge building engineers throughout the world thought that this was an impossible feat to build the spectacular suspension bridge as he wanted, spanning the East River and connecting New York with the Long Island. They told Roebling to forget the idea. They were of the view that it just could not be done, that it was not practical, and that it had never been done before.

(OR)

The bridge building engineers throughout the world thought that Roebling plan was an impossible task. They not only declared it impracticable but also asked Roebling to forget the idea

3. How did Roebling finally succeed in convincing that the project could be accomplished?

Ans: Roebling always believed that the most distant dream could be realized with determination and persistence. So, he decided to turn his idea and plan into reality and not to give up, whatsoever might happen. He thought about it day and night. Finally, it was after much discussion and persuasion that Roebling managed to convince his son Washington, a budding engineer, that the bridge in fact could be built.

(OR)

In spite of the negative and discouraging opinions of the experts/engineers Roebling persisted his vision of building the bridge. He needed someone to share his dream. After much discussion he succeeded in convincing his son Washington, a budding engineer, that the bridge in fact could be built.

4. What happened when the project was underway for only a few months?

Ans: When the project was underway for only a few months, a tragic accident on the site happens this took the life of John Roebling, while his son Washington was incapacitated. The condition of Washington was very miserable. He was not able to walk, talk or even move. The future of construction of bridge was totally bleak and the project was over.

(OR)

When the project was underway for only a few months a tragic accident on the site took the life of John Roebling. Washington was injured and his brain damaged. As a result, he was unable to walk or move.

5. What was the response of the people after the accident on the site?

Ans: After the accident on the site, the people called the dead Roebling and his incapacitated son Washington crazy men. They said that it was foolish to chase wild visions. They had a negative view about the future of the project and felt that it should be taken off because only the Roebling's were the only ones who knew about the way to build the bridge.

(OR)

The response of the people was negative. Everyone commented against their project and declared it as crazy dream of crazy men.

6. Unable to speak or write, what method did Washington use to communicate with his wife?

Ans: Unable to speak or write, Washington used a strange method to communicate with his wife. All he could do was to move one finger and he decided to make the best use of it. So, by touching his wife's arm with that one finger, he indicated to his wife that he wanted to call the engineers again. His wife did accordingly and again he used the same method to tell the engineers what to do. Ultimately, this method set the project again on track.

(OR)

After the sad and tragic accident Washington was unable to speak or write. In such a depressing and critical situation, he did not give up his plan. Suddenly an idea hit him. He developed a code of communication by moving

his finger. He conveyed his message to his wife by using his finger. This non-verbal communication proved successful.

7. How did Washington communicate with his engineers for 13 long years?

Ans: For 13 long years, Washington communicated with his engineers by tapping out his instructions with his finger on his wife's arm, which included like how to direct operations on the site, how to set the proper locations, etc.

(OR)

For 13 years Washington communicated with his engineers by tapping out his instructions with his figure on his wife's arm. His wife patiently decoded the messages of her husband and told the engineers what to do. Today the spectacular Brooklyn Bridge stands as a tribute to the triumph of one man's indomitable spirit and determination not to be defeated by any circumstances.

Interpreting

8. Why did John Roebling ignore when other engineers said that it was an impossible idea, that it could not be done?

Ans: John Roebling ignored when other engineers said that it was an impossible idea and that it could not be done, because he was determined and would not think of ignoring his dream. He had decided to turn his idea and plan into reality. He was a possibility thinker who believed in making things happen.

(OR)

John Roebling was not discouraged by the negative remarks of other engineers. He was of the opinion that nothing was impossible and he was determined to accomplish this project.

9. Why did Washington not abandon the idea of building the bridge after the accident which left him totally paralyzed?

Ans: Washington did not abandon the idea of building the bridge after the accident which left him totally paralyzed because of the inspiration that he got from nature. It happened that one day, when he was lying on his bed in the hospital, he saw that the sunlight was streaming through the windows and a gentle breeze was blowing the flimsy white curtains apart, exposing to him the outside view of sky and top of the trees. He felt that this scene was a message for him not to give up despite the fact that he could move only one finger. Thus, being an optimist, a possibility thinker and a man of wonderfully strong nerves, he decided to make things happen even by using the one finger rather than surrendering even to his worst physical condition.

(OR)

Washington had a burning desire to complete the bridge as this project had been started by his father. He was determined and his mind was still as sharp as ever.

10. The Brooklyn Bridge is called a tribute, a monument by the author. Why?

Ans: The Brooklyn Bridge is called a tribute and a monument by the author, because it stands for the invincible victory of John Roebling and his son Washington's strong spirit, will power and determination over the discouraging taunts of their compatriots. It is also a tribute to the engineers who had faith and trust in a man who was half paralyzed and was considered silly by half of the world. The bridge also reflects the love and affection of Emily towards her husband.

(OR)

It is a spectacular bridge and a feat of engineering. It is the result of untired efforts of Roebling and his son who completed this task by the force of indomitable spirit and determination. It is the unique and the oldest suspension bridge in the United States

Extending

11. Can you think of an example from any sphere of life in which someone achieved an impossible feat through sheer courage and indomitable spirit against all odds, obstacles and opposition?

Ans: There is an example of Muhammad Ali Jinnah, known as Quaid-e-Azam who faced the Hindu and the British to get Pakistan for the Muslims of India. He achieved an impossible feat i.e. Pakistan through sheer courage and indomitable spirit.

12. "Crazy men and their crazy dreams!" "It's foolish to chase wild visions." Is it really foolish to chase wild visions? Isn't the world that we now have is because of crazy men and their impossible crazy dreams and visions which they realized? Do some research and find examples of deeds or feats which were considered impossible or crazy or foolish but which were finally accomplished.

Ans: There are:

1. Thomas Edison (Electric bulb)
2. Newton (Law of gravitation)
3. Louis Pasteur (Vaccine)
4. Alexander Graham Bell (Telephone)
5. Alexander Fleming (Penicillin)

Oral Activity

- The students will be divided into two groups.
- The first group of students will express their views about John Roebling who was determined to build a spectacular bridge connecting New York with the Long Island.
- The second group of students will express their views as how he succeeded in tiding over the hardships that he had to face.

Writing Skills

- The students will be asked to write the "summary of the lesson "Determination".

Ans: Summary

This real-life story is about the determination of an engineer named John Roebling, who was inspired by an idea to build a spectacular bridge connecting New York with the long island. Experts throughout the world were of the opinion that it was impossible. But Roebling was determined. He thought about it all the time. He took his son into confidence and they both began to develop concepts that how it could be accomplished They hired their crew and began to build their dream bridge

One day, during the construction work, a tragic accident took the life of John Roebling. Washington was severely injured and he was crippled for life He was never discouraged and still had a burning desire to complete the bridge. He was not able to walk or talk. One day when he was at hospital bed, an idea hit him. He decided to make the best use of his fingers. By moving his finger, he gradually developed a code of communication with his wife. He used to touch

his wife's arm with that finger indicating to her that he wanted her to call the engineers. He used to tap her arm to tell the engineers what to do. For 13 years this practice was continuing, until the bridge was finally completed. Today this spectacular Brooklyn Bridge stands in all its glory as a tribute to the triumph of one man's invincible spirit and his determination not to be defeated by circumstances.

It is considered a feat of engineering and perhaps this is the one of the best examples of a never say die attitude that overcomes a terrible physical handicap and achieves an impossible goal.

- **Write a paragraph to illustrate the moral "Labour and determination conquer all".**

Ans: LABOUR AND DETERMINATION CONQUER ALL

Hard work is the basis for everything worthwhile you will achieve in life. If work is applying your ability, then hard work is applying your ability with focus and intensity to the exclusion of other possibilities. Determination is an important factor in the overall success or failure of a person's effort, determination is not something that comes easy to the majority of people, so to be truly determined someone must be passionate about what he or she is doing. An example of someone who is determined is like a moving train, the train will not change its direction no matter what comes its way. It will surely continue along the track until it either reaches its destination or it's stopped by its conductor. You don't need to stray from your goal once they are positive. There will be mountains, ups and downs, the people you will have to run over to reach your goal, but once your mind is set you will never waver. Everything in life is a step by step not just a day task because many of us dream of being successful we want to rush into it and make sure it is achieved within a twinkle of an eye, by doing that you've not set your goal and determination have never set in. When things are

not going as we want you just have to keep trying-trying, never let obstacle to ruin your goals, let them serve as motivator to you until you reach your goal. Hard work is challenging, painful and uncomfortable, if you want to achieve something big and interesting goals all you have to do is to fall in love with hard work and determination.

(OR)

Life is full of twists and turns. Everyone has to struggle here in this world to conquer every hindrance in the way to success. For this hard work is obligatory. Without working hard and just by sitting idle it will be hard for one to get success.

"The harder you fall, the heavier your heart; the heavier your heart, the stronger you climb; the stronger you climb, the higher your pedestal."

When people thrive in life, it is because of hard work. Being lucky has nothing to do with success in life. Hard work and success go hand and hand. With that stated, I'm not a big believer in luck being the reason for someone's success in life. I'm not saying that I do not believe that luck exists or that luck is only a part of life but hard work is more important. Hard work can make impossibilities possible. Life is full of dissension. Life is battle. Activity is the law of Nature. A life of idleness is a life of ignominy and discredit. Idle men are intruders on society. We are endowed with brain and limbs, which are meant to be properly exercised. Failure in life is very often due to idleness. Greatness can be achieved by great labour only. Hard work is challenging, painful and uncomfortable, if you want to achieve something big and interesting goals all you have to do is to fall in love with hard work and determination.

Language Study (Grammar)

The Adjectives

Read the following sentences:

1. Saira is a clever girl. (Girl of what kind?)
2. I don't like that boy. (which boy?)
3. He gave me five mangoes. (How many mangoes?)
4. There is little time for preparation. (How much time?)

In sentence 1, 'clever' shows what kind of girl Saira is; or, in other words, 'clever' describes the girl Saira.

In sentence 2, 'that' points out which boy is meant.

In sentence 3, 'five' shows how many mangoes he gave me.

In sentence 4, 'little' shows how much time there is for preparation.

A word used with a noun to describe or point out, the person, animal, place or thing which the noun names, or to tell the number or quantity, is called an Adjective.

So we may define an Adjective as a word used with a noun to add something to its meaning. [adjective means added to.]

Look at the following sentences:

1. The lazy boy was punished.
2. The boy is lazy.

In sentence 1, the Adjective lazy is used along with the noun boy as an epithet or attribute. It is, therefore, said to be used Attributively. In sentence 2, the Adjective lazy is used along with the verb is, and forms part of the Predicate. It is, therefore, said to be used predicatively.

Some Adjectives can be used only predicatively; as,

She is afraid of ghosts.

I am quite well.

Kind of Adjectives

Adjectives may be divided into the following classes:

Adjectives of Quality (or Descriptive Adjective) shows the kind or quality of a person or things; as,

- Lahore is a **large** city.
- He is an **honest** man.
- The **foolish** old crow tried to sing.
- This is a Grammar of the English language.

[Adjectives formed from Proper Nouns (e.g, French perfume, Pakistani cotton, Indian tea, etc.) are sometimes called Proper Adjectives. They are generally classed with Adjectives of Quality.]

Adjectives of Quality answer the question: of what kind?

Adjectives of Quantity show how much of a thing is meant;

- I ate **some** rice.
- He **showed** much patience.
- He has **little** intelligence.
- We have had **enough** exercise.
- He has lost **all** his wealth.
- You have **no** sense.
- He did not eat **any** rice.
- Take **great** care of your health.
- He claimed his **half** share of the booty.
- There has not been **sufficient** rain this year.
- The **whole** sum was expended.

- ◆ Adjectives of Quantity answer the question: How much?

Adjectives of Number (or numeral Adjectives) show how many persons or things are meant, or in what order a person or thing stands; as,

- The hand has **five** fingers,
- **Few** cats like cold water.
- There are **no** pictures in this book.
- I have taught you **many** things.
- **All** men must die.
- Here are **some** ripe mangoes.
- **Most** boys like cricket.
- There are **several** mistakes in your exercise.
- Sunday is the first day of the week. Adjectives of Number answer the question: How many? Adjectives of Number (or Numeral Adjectives) are of three kinds:

(i) Definite Numeral Adjectives: Which denote an exact number: as,

One, two, three, etc. These are called Cardinals.

First, second, third, etc. These are called Ordinals.

[A Cardinal denotes how many, and an Ordinal the order of things in a series. It will be seen that Ordinals really do the work of Demonstrative Adjectives.

(ii) Indefinite Numeral Adjectives: Which refer to each one of a number; as, All, no: many, few, some, any, certain, several, somebody

(iii) Distributive Numeral Adjectives: Which refer to each one of a number; as,

- **Each** boy must take his turn.

- **England expects** every man to do his duty.
- **Every** word of it is false.
- **Either** pen will do.
- On **either** side is an arrow lane
- **Neither** accusation is true.

The same Adjective may be classed as of Quantity or Number, according to its use

<u>Adjectives of Quantity</u>	<u>Adjectives of Number</u>
-------------------------------	-----------------------------

I ate some rice	Some boys are clever
He has lost all his wealth.	All men must die.
You have no sense	There is no picture in his book.
He did not eat any rice	Is there any mango-tree in this garden?
I have enough sugar	There are not enough spoons.

Demonstrative Adjectives point out which person or thing is meant; as,

- **This** boy is stronger than Haris
- **That** boy is industrious
- **These** mangoes are sour
- **Those** rascals must be punished.
- Don't be in **such** hurry
- I hate **such** things

Demonstrative Adjectives answer the question: Which?

[It will be noticed that this and that are used with Singular nouns, these and those with Plural nouns]

What, which, and whose when they are used with nouns to ask questions are called Interrogative Adjectives, as,

- **What** manner of man is he?
- **Which** way shall we go?
- **Whose** book is this?

[It will be seen that what is used in a general sense, and which in a selective sense.]

EXERCISE (1)

Pick out all the Adjectives in the following sentences, and say to which class each of them belongs:

1. The ship sustained heavy damage.

Ans. Heavy: Adjective of Quality

2. I have called several times.

Ans. Several: Indefinite Numeral Adjective

3. Every dog has his day.

Ans. Every: Distributive Numeral Adjective

4. A live ass is better than a dead lion

Ans. Live: Adjective of Quality;

Better: Adjective of Quality;

Dead: Adjective of Quality

5. Every man has his duties.

Ans. Every: Distributive Numeral Adjective

6. Say the same thing twice over.

Ans: Same: Demonstrative Adjective

7. Several persons were present at the time.

Ans: Several: Indefinite Numeral Adjective; Present: Descriptive Adjective

8. He is a man of few words.

Ans: Few: Indefinite Numeral Adjective

9. Neither party is quite in the right.

Ans: Neither: Distributive Numeral Adjective

10. What time is it?

Ans: What: Interrogative Adjective

11. Which pen do you prefer?

Ans: Which: Interrogative Adjective

12. The way was long, the wind was cold, the minister was infirm and old.

Ans: Long: Adjective of Quality; Cold: Adjective of Quality; infirm: Adjective of Quality; Old: Adjective of Quality

13. He comes here every day.

Ans: Every: Distributive Numeral Adjective

14. I have not seen him for several days.

Ans: Several: Indefinite Numeral Adjective

15. There should not be much talk and little work.

Ans: Much: Adjective of Quantity; Little: Adjective of Quantity

• • • • •

• In the following sentences the words own and very are used as Emphasizing Adjectives:

- I saw it with my own eyes.
- He was beaten at his own game.
- Mind your own business.
- He is his own master.
- That is the very thing we want.
- When all else left my cause.
- My very adversary took my part.

The word what is sometimes used as an Exclamatory Adjective as,

- What genius!
- What a folly!
- What an idea!
- What a blessing!
- What a piece of work is man!

As already pointed out this and that are the only Adjectives which are inflected or changed in form to show number.

- This girl sings.
- That boy plays.
- These girls sing.
- Those boys play

This, these include something near to the speaker.

That, those indicate more distant objects.

Formation of Adjectives

(i) Many Adjectives are formed from Nouns.

Noun	Adjective	Noun	Adjective
------	-----------	------	-----------

Boy	Boyish	Dirt	Dirty
Fool	Foolish	Storm	Stormy
Care	Careful	Pardon	Pardonable
Play	Playful	Laugh	Laughable
Hose	Houseful	Outrage	Outrageous
Venture	Venturesome	Courage	Courageous
Trouble	Troublesome	Glory	Glorious
Shame	Shameless	Envy	Envious
Sense	Senseless	Man	Manly
Silk	Silken	King	Kingly
Gold	Golden	Gift	Gifted

(ii) Some Adjectives are formed from verbs.

Verb	Adjective	Verb	Adjective
Tire	Tireless	Cease	Ceaseless
Talk	Talkative	Move	Moveable

(iii) Some adjectives are formed from other adjectives.

Adjective	Adjective	Adjective	Adjective
Tragic	Tragical	Black	Blackish

Whole	Wholesome	White	Whitish
Three	Threefold	Sick	Sickly

EXERCISE (2)

Supply suitable adjective:-

1. The town stood a fearful siege.
2. The first prize was won by a Pakistani.
3. The poor woman lives in a wretched hut.
4. This is a very serious matter.
5. The battle of Waterloo ended in a grand victory.
6. Suddenly there arose a violent storm.
7. It is a deliberate lie.
8. The sad tidings were a heavy blow to the old man.
9. Here is a rupee, pay the fare and keep the remaining money.
10. His reading is of a very wide range.
11. The injured man wants medical advice.
12. You cannot have it both ways.
13. England expects every man to do his duty.
14. The early bird catches the worm.
15. Have you any valid reason to give?
16. Constant anxiety has undermined his health.
17. There were riots in several places.

18. An angry man will not reason calmly.
19. He stands five feet in his stockings.
20. Nelson won for himself eternal fame.

EXERCISE (3)

- ♦ **Form Adjectives from the following Nouns:**

[Attach each Adjective to a suitable noun]

Ease, pity, time, heaven, health, wealth, love, hill, need, greed, room, cost, pain, doubt, wonder, peace, child, prince, mountain, ridicule, picture, labour, wood, pomp, artist, progress, slave, contempt, tempest, sense, quarrel, thought, hope, friend.

Ans:

Given Noun	Adjectives	Suitable Noun
Ease	Easy	Book
Pity	Pitiful / Piteous	Sight
Time	Timely	Help
Heaven	Heavenly	Vision
Health	Healthy	Climate
Wealth	Wealthy	Person
Love	Lovely	Garden
Hill	Hilly	Region
Need	Needy	People

Greed	Greedy	Fellow
Room	Roomy	Building
Cost	Costly	Watch
Pain	Painful	Experience
Doubt	Doubtful	Case
Wonder	Wonderful	Weather
Peace	Peaceful	Reign
Child	Childish	Argument
Prince	Princely	Behavior

Labour	Laborious	Task
Mountain	Mountainous	Country
Ridicule	Ridiculous	Position
Picture	Picturesque	Scenery
Wood	Wooden	Leg
Pomp	Pompous	Language
Artist	Artistic	Device
Progress	Progressive	Outlook
Slave	Slavish	Mentality

Contempt	Contemptuous	Looks
Tempest	Tempestuous	Mood
Sense	Sensible	Suggestion
Quarrel	Quarrelsome	Neighbor
Thought	Thoughtful	Speech
Hope	Hopeful	Pupil
Friend	Friendly	Terms

EXERCISE (4)

Use each of the following Adjectives in a sentence:

[Models. A soft answer turned away wrath.

His polite manners have endeared him to all.

Swimming is a healthy exercise.

certain man fell among thieves].

Happy, industrious, lazy, big, small, soft, harsh, hard, polite, rude, wise, foolish, rich, poor, young, new, old, long, short, quick, slow, strong, weak, handsome, ugly, clever, dull, kind, cruel, healthy, dutiful, distant, certain.

Ans: Their marriage has been a happy one.

Zia is an industrious boy.

A lazy man accomplishes (highly trained or skilled in a particular activity) little.

Munsif got a big prize at the flower show.

This coat is too small for me.

A soft reply turns away wrath.

A harsh judge may become unpopular.

He is a hard man to please.

A polite man commands the love of all.

It was rude of him to behave like that

Wise men must be respected.

You were foolish to reject the offer.

He is a very rich man.

My father is in poor health.

My sister is too young to go to school.

New brooms sweep clean.

Old men are usually wise.

I have known her for a long time

He is too short to reach the picture.

He walked at a quick pace.

He is slow to make up his mind.

He is as strong as a horse.

His argument has many weak points.

He gave her handsome presents.

He is staying in ugly surroundings.

It was clever of the driver to avert a terrible accident

Even dull pupils can understand this lesson.

It has been kind of you to help us.

One should not be cruel to animals
 Though he is seventy, he looks quite healthy.
 He proved to be a dutiful son
 We had a distant view of Mount Everest
 I accepted the offer on certain conditions.

EXERCISE (5)

Use a suitable Adjective with each of the following Nouns:

- Models:
- A violent storm
 - A long siege
 - A decisive victory.
 - A populous city.
 - A devoted husband

Storm, siege, sleep, victory, advice, blow, silence, hands, water, servant, flower city, artist, dealer, voice, husband, subject, child, king, dog.

Ans:

Given Noun	Suitable Adjective
Storm	A fierce storm
Siege	A sudden siege
Sleep	Sound sleep
Victory	A glorious victory
Advice	Valuable advice
Blow	A violent blow
Silence	Dead silence

Hands	Slender hands
Water	Hot water
Servant	A reliable servant
Flower	A beautiful flower
City	A big city
Artist	A popular artist
Dealer	An honest dealer
Voice	A harsh voice
Husband	A loving husband
Subject	A loyal subject
Child	A pretty child
King	An ideal king
Dog	A faithful dog

EXERCISE (6)

Use as many suitable Adjectives as you can with each of the following Nouns:

[Models. A narrow street, a wide street, a crooked street, a dirty street, a clean street. A deliberate lie, a black lie, a white lie].

Fortune, man, news, storm, health, novel, progress, room, incident

Ans:

Given Noun	Suitable Adjective
Fortune	good fortune; bad fortune; ill fortune; great fortune; small fortune.
Man	a great man, a good man, a bad man, a famous man, a wicked man, a poor man, a rich man, a lucky man, an honest man.
News	good news; bad news; sad news; happy news; pleasant news; dreadful news; important news.
Storm	a violent storm, a fierce storm, a terrible storm, a fearful storm.
Health	good health; bad healthy ill health, poor health, indifferent health, delicate health.
Novel	a good novel, a great novel, an interesting novel, a humorous novel, a historical novel, a romantic novel, a detective novel.
Progress	good progress, rapid progress, slow progress, satisfactory progress, poor progress.
Room	a large room, a big room, a small room, a spacious room, a dark room, a crowded room.
Incident	an unfortunate incident, an unhappy incident, an unexpected incident, a striking incident, an amusing incident.

Formation of Comparative and Superlative

Most Adjectives of one syllable, and some of more than one form the Comparative by adding er and the superlative by adding est to the Positive.

Positive	Comparative	Superlative
----------	-------------	-------------

Sweet	Sweeter	Sweetest
Small	Smaller	Smallest
Tall	Taller	Tallest
Bold	Bolder	Boldest
Clever	Cleverer	Cleverest
Kind	Kinder	Kindest
Young	Younger	Youngest
Great	Greater	Greatest

When the positive degree ends in e only and are added.

Positive	Comparative	Superlative
Brave	Braver	Bravest
Fine	Finer	Finest
White	Whiter	Whitest
Large	Larger	Largest
Able	Abler	Ablest
Noble	Nobler	Noblest
Wise	Wiser	Wiseest

When the Positive ends in y, preceded by a consonant, the y is changed into i before adding or and est

Positive	Comparative	Superlative
Happy	Happier	Happiest
Easy	Easier	Easiest
Heavy	Heavier	Heaviest
Merry	Merrier	Merriest
Wealthy	Wealthier	Wealthiest

When the Positive is a word of one syllable and ends in a single consonant, preceded by a short vowel, this consonant is doubled before adding er and est

Positive	Comparative	Superlative
Red	Redder	Reddest
Big	Bigger	Biggest
Hot	Hotter	Hottest
Thin	Thinner	Thinnest
Sad	Sadder	Saddest
Fat	Fatter	Fattest

Adjectives of more than two syllables, and many of those with two, form the Comparative by using the adverb more with the Positive and the Superlative by using the adverb most with the Positive.

Positive	Comparative	Superlative
Splendid	more splendid	most splendid
Beautiful	more beautiful	most beautiful
Difficult	more difficult	most difficult
Industrious	more industrious	most industrious
Courageous	more courageous	most courageous
Learned	more learned	most learned
Proper	more proper	most proper

- The new palace is more splendid than the old one.
 - Which do you consider his most splendid victory?
 - Abdul is more courageous than Karim
 - Rahim is the most courageous boy in the village.
- ◆ The Comparative is not used when we compare two qualities in the same person or thing. If we wish to say that courage of Raheela is greater than the courage of Rahim, we say,
- Raheela is more brave than Karim.
- But if we wish to say that the courage of Raheela is greater than her prudence, we must say,
- Raheela is more brave than prudent.
- When two objects are compared with each other, the latter term of comparison must exclude the former, as,
- Iron is more useful than any other metal. If we say,

- Iron is more useful than any metal.

This is the same thing as saying "Iron is more useful than iron*" since iron is itself a metal.

Irregular Comparison

Positive	Comparative	Superlative
Good, well	Better	Best
Bad, evil, ill	Worse	Worst
Little	less, lesser	Least
Much	More	most (quantity)
Many	More	most (number)
Late	later, latter	latest, last
Old	older, elder	oldest, eldest
Far	Farther	farthest (distanced)
Nigh	Nigher	nighest, next
Fore	Former	foremost, first
(Fore)	Further	furthest movement
(On)	Inner	inmost, innermost
(Up)	Upper	upmost, uppermost
(Out)	outer, utter	utmost, uttermost

Note: The forms enclosed in parentheses are not used as Adjectives; they are Adverbs.

EXERCISE (1)

Compare the following Adjectives:

Black, excellent, ill, gloomy, mad, safe, bad, unjust, gay, able, dry, timid, ugly, true, severe, exact, agreeable, difficult, little, few, numerous, merry

Ans:

Positive (I)	Comparative (II)	Superlative (III)
Black	Blacker	Blackest
Excellent	More excellent	Most excellent
Ill	Worse	Worst
Gloomy	Gloomier	Gloomiest
Mad	Madder	Maddest
Safe	Safer	Safest
Bad	Worse	Worst
Unjust	More Unjust	Most Unjust
Gay	Gayer	Gayest
Able	Abler	Ablest
Dry	Drier	Driest
Timid	More timid	Most timid
Ugly	Uglier	Ugliest

True	Truer	Truest
Severe	More severe	Most severe
Exact	More exact	Most exact
Agreeable	More agreeable	Most agreeable
Difficult	More difficult	Most difficult
Little	Less	Lea
Few	Fewer	Fewest
Numerous	More numerous	Most numerous
Merry	Merrier	Merriest

• • • • •

The double forms of the Comparative and Superlative of the Adjectives given* in Above (Irregular Comparison) are used in different ways.

Later, latter; latest, last. Later and latest refer to time; latter and last refer to position.

- He is later than I expected.
- I have not heard the latest news.
- The latter chapters are lacking in interest.
- The last chapter is carelessly written.
- Ours is the last house in the street.

Elder, older; eldest, oldest. Elder and eldest are used only of person, not of animals or things; and are now confined to members of the same family. Elder's

not used with than following. Older and oldest are used of both persons and things.

- Kamran is my elder brother.
- Rehman is my eldest son.
- He is older than his sister
- Jamal is the oldest boy in the eleven.
- This is the oldest temple in Peshawar.

Farther, further. Farther means more distant or advanced; further means additional. Karachi farther from Peshawar

- After this he made no further remarks.
- I must have a reply without further delay.

Note: The forms farther and further are not always differentiated by writers. Nearest, next- Nearest denotes distance; next denotes position. Karachi is the seaport nearest to UAE. Osier's shop is next to the Post Office. My uncle lives in the next house.

EXERCISE (2)

(a) Fill in the blank spaces with 'later' or 'latter':-

1. The majority accepted the latter proposal.
2. The latter part of the book shows signs of hurry.
3. At a later date, he was placed in charge of the whole district.
4. I prefer the latter proposition to the former.
5. Is there no later news than last week's?

(b) Fill the blank spaces with 'older' or 'elder':-

1. I have an elder sister.
2. Karam is older than Hari by two years.
3. His elder brother is in the Pakistan Civil Service.
4. She is the elder of the two sisters.
5. The nephew is older than his uncle.

(c) Fill the blank spaces with 'oldest' and 'eldest':-

1. Rustam is the eldest of my uncle's five sons.
2. He is the oldest member of the School Committee.
3. That is Antonio, the duke's eldest son.
4. The oldest mosque in the town is near the railway station.
5. Mr. Smith is the oldest European resident of Jamshedpur.

(d) Fill the blank spaces with 'farther' or 'further':-

1. Broach is farther from Bombay than Surat.
2. No further reasons were given.
3. He walked off without further ceremony.
4. Until further orders Mr. K.S. Dave will act as Headmaster of Government High School.
5. To let a bungalow at Ridge road. For further particulars apply to Box No.65.

(e) Fill the blank spaces with 'latest' or 'last':-

1. The latest news from China is very disquieting.
2. The last time I saw him, he was in high spirits.
3. To-day is the last day for receiving tenders
4. We expect to get the latest news in a few hours.
5. The last Moghul Emperor came to an ignominious end.

(f) Fill the blank spaces with 'nearest' or 'next'.

1. This is the nearest Post office to my house.
2. The pillar-box is next to my house.
3. The burglar was taken to the nearest police station
4. His house is next to mine.
5. The nearest railway station is two miles from here.

.....

- Certain English Comparatives have lost their comparative meaning and are used as Positive. They cannot be followed by than.

These are:-

Former, latter, elder, hinder, upper, neither, inner, outer, utter.

Both the tiger and the leopard are beasts; the former animal is much larger than the latter.

- The inner meaning of this letter is not clear.
- The soldiers ran to defend the outer wall.
- My elder brother is an engineer.

- This man is an utter fool.
- Certain Comparatives borrowed from Latin have no Positive or Superlative degree. They all end in *-or*, not *-er*. They are twelve in all. Five of them have lost their Comparative meaning and are used as Positive Adjectives. These are Interior, exterior, ulterior, major, minor.
- The exterior wall of the house is made of stone; the interior walls are of wood.
- His age is a matter of minor importance.
- I have no ulterior motive in offering you help.

The other seven are used as Comparative Adjectives but are followed by *to* instead of *than*.

The comparative degree is generally followed by *than*; but Comparative Adjectives ending in *-or* are followed by the preposition *to*; as, *j*

Inferior, superior, prior, anterior, posterior, senior, junior

- Harts is inferior to Raheema in intelligence.
- Raheema's intelligence is superior to Harts.
- The death of King Edward was prior the Great War.
- He is junior to all his colleagues.
- All his colleagues are senior to him.
- Adjectives expressing qualities that do not admit different degrees cannot, strictly speaking, be compared; as,

Square, round, perfect, eternal, universal, unique

Strictly speaking, a thing cannot be more square, more round, more perfect. But we say, for instance,

- This is the most perfect specimen I have seen.

EXERCISE (3)

Point out the Adjectives and name the Degree of Comparison of each:-

1. The poor woman had seen happier days.

Ans: Adjective: Poor Degree: Positive
Adjective: Happier Degree: Comparative

2. Do not talk such nonsense.

Ans: Adjective: Such Degree: Have no degree of Comparison

3. Make less noise.

Ans: Adjective: Less Degree: Comparative

4. That child has a slight cold.

Ans: Adjective: Slight Degree: Positive

5. A live ass is stronger than a dead lion.

Ans: Adjective: Live Degree: Have no degree of Comparison
Adjective: Stronger Degree: Comparative
Adjective: Dead Degree: Have no degree of Comparison

6. Say the same thing twice over.

Ans: Adjective: Same Degree: Have no degree of Comparison

7. Soloman was one of the wisest men.

Ans: Adjective: Wisest Degree: Superlative

8. Hunger is the best sauce.

Ans: Adjective: Best Degree: Superlative

9. His simple word is as good as an oath.

Ans: Adjective: Simple Degree: Positive

Adjective: Good Degree: Positive

10. There was not the slightest excuse for it.

Ans: Adjective: Slightest Degree: Superlative

11. My knife is sharper than yours.

Ans: Adjective: Sharper. Degree: Comparative

12. Small people love to talk of great men.

Ans: Adjective: Small Degree: Positive

Adjective: Great Degree: Positive

13. Of two evils choose the less.

Ans: Adjective: Less Degree: Comparative

14. I hope the matter will be cleared up some day.

Ans: Adjective: Some Degree: Have no degree of Comparison

15. Your son makes no progress in his studies.

Ans: Adjective: No Degree: Have no degree of Comparison

16. Open rebuke is better than secret love.

Ans: Adjective: Open Degree: Have no degree of Comparison

Adjective: Secret Degree: Have no degree of Comparison

17. We never had such sport.

Ans: Adjective: Such Degree: Have no degree of Comparison

18. I have other things to attend to.

Ans: Adjective: Other Degree: Have no degree of Comparison

19. Haris is the **idlest** boy in the class.

Ans: Adjective: idlest Degree: Superlative

20. I promise you a **fair** hearing.

Ans: Adjective: Fair Degree: Positive

EXERCISE (4)

Supply the proper-form (Comparative or Superlative) of the Adjective:-

[Note: The Comparative and not the Superlative should be used to compare two things].

1. Good How is your brother to-day? Is he better?
2. Hot May is hotter here than any other month.
3. Pretty Her doll is prettier than yours.
4. Idle Haris is the idlest boy in the class.
5. Sharp Your knife is sharp, but mine is sharper.
6. Dear Honour is dearer to him than life.
7. Rich He is richest man in our town.
8. Old Maria is two years older than Maryam.
9. Large Name the largest city in the world.
10. Good He is the best friend I have.
11. Bad He is the worse boy of the two.
12. Bad Rehman's work is bad, Haris's is worse.
13. Ferocious There is no animal more ferocious than the tiger.

14. Bad The trade is in a worse condition to-day than it was a year ago.
15. Tall He is the tallest of the two.
16. Dry Sindh is the driest part of Pakistan.
17. Useful Iron is more useful, than any other metal.
18. Useful Iron is the most useful of all metals.
19. Great Who is the greatest living poet?
20. Nutritious I think he requires a more nutritious diet.

EXERCISE (5)

Supply appropriate Comparatives or Superlatives to each of the following:

1. Prevention is better than cure.
2. Akbar had a longer reign than Babar.
3. London is the oldest city in the world.
4. The pen is mightier than the sword.
5. The loftiest buildings are found in America
6. The Mail has a bigger circulation than any other paper.
7. Which of the two girls has the more beautiful, dress?
8. Honour is dearer to him than life.
9. This pen is costlier than the other.
10. Who is the cleverest boy in the class?
11. The Eiffel Tower is older than Kutab Minar.
12. My uncle is younger than my father.

13. The multi-millionaire Mr. Sen is the richest in this town.
14. Wordsworth is a greater poet than Cowper
15. Balu is the best bowler in the eleven.
16. The streets of Bombay are broader than those of Ahmedabad.
17. Peshawar is hotter than Murree.
18. The piano was knocked down to the highest bidder.
19. Mount Everest is the highest peak of the Himalayas.
20. He sings more beautiful than that of his brother.

EXERCISE (6)

Change the following sentences by using less or least without changing the meaning.

1. The mango is sweeter than the pine-apple.

Ans: The pineapple is less sweet than the mango.

2. Silver is more plentiful than gold.

Ans: Gold is less plentiful than silver.

3. This is the most useless of all my books.

Ans: This is the least useful of all my books.

4. Wolfram is one of the rarest minerals.

Ans: Wolfram is one of the least common minerals.

5. The wild-apple is the sourest of all fruits.

Ans: All other fruits are less sour than the wild-apple.

6. Iron is more useful than copper.

Ans: Copper is less useful than iron.

Interchange of the Degree of Comparison

As the following examples show, it is possible to change the Degree of Comparison of an Adjective in a sentence, without changing the meaning of the sentences

Superlative - Lead is the heaviest of all metals.

Comparative - Lead is heavier than all other metals.

Comparative - Abbottabad is cooler than Peshawar.

Positive - Peshawar is not so cool as Abbottabad.

Positive - He is as wise as Sulman.

Comparative - Sulman was not wiser than he is.

Superlative - Waris is the best drama in Urdu.

Comparative - Waris is better than any other drama in Urdu.

Positive - No other drama in Urdu is so good as Waris.

Superlative - Karachi is one of the biggest of Pakistani cities.

Comparative - Karachi is bigger than most other Pakistani cities.

Positive - Very few Pakistani cities are so big as Karachi.

Positive - Some poets are at least as great as Tennyson.

Comparative - Tennyson is not greater than some other poets.

Some poets are not less great than Tennyson.

Superlative - Tennyson is not the greatest of all poets.

EXERCISE (7)

Change the Degree of Comparison, without changing the meaning:-

1. The Times is the most powerful newspaper in England.

Ans: No other newspaper in England is powerful as The Times. (Positive)

The Times is the more powerful newspaper than any other in England.
(Comparative)

2. Some beans are at least as nutritious as meat.

Ans: Some beans are not less nutritious than meat. (Comparative)

3. In Pakistan, no other exercise is so healthy as Hockey.

Ans: Hockey is healthier than any other exercise in Pakistan. (Comparative)

Hockey is one of the healthiest exercise in Pakistan. (Superlative)

4. Very few boys are so industrious as Latif.

Ans: Latif is more industrious than most other boys. (Comparative)

Latif is one of the most industrious boys. (Superlative)

5. He would sooner die than tell a lie.

Ans: He would not as soon tell a lie as die. (Positive)

6. Sindhi mango is the best in Pakistan.

Ans: In Pakistan not any other mango as good as Sindhi mango. (Positive)

In Pakistan not any other mango is better than Sindhi mango.
(Comparative)

7. Shakespeare is greater than any other English poet.

Ans: No other English poet is so great as Shakespeare. (Positive)

Shakespeare is the greatest of English poets. (Superlative)

8. The tiger is the most ferocious of all animals.

Ans: No other animal is so ferocious as the tiger. (Positive)

The tiger is more ferocious than any other animal. (Comparative)

9. Australia is the largest island in the world.

Ans: No other island in the world is so large as Australia. (Positive)

Australia is larger than any other island in the world. (Comparative)

10. Lead is heavier than any other metal.

Ans: No other metal is so heavy as lead. (Positive)

Lead is the heaviest of all metals. (Superlative)

11. Some people have more money than brains.

Ans: Some people do not have as much brains as money. (Positive)

12. A wise enemy is better than a foolish friend.

Ans: A foolish friend is not so good as a wise enemy. (Positive)

13. I know him quite well as you do.

Ans: You do not know him better than I do. (Comparative)

14. You do not know him better than I do.

Ans: I do not know him as well as you do. (Positive)

15. No other man was as strong as Behram.

Ans: Behram was stronger than any other man. (Comparative)

Behram was the strongest of all men. (Superlative)

16. Some Pathans were at least as faithful as the Sikhs.

Ans: Sikhs were not more faithful than some Pathans. (Comparative)

Sikhs were not most faithful than some Pathans. (Superlative)

17. Mount Everest is the highest peak of the Himalayas.

Ans: No other peak of the Himalayas is so high as Mount Everest. (Positive)

Mount Everest is higher than any other peak of the Himalayas. (Comparative)

18. Very few countries are as rich as England.

Ans: England is richer than most other countries. (Comparative)

England is one of the richest countries. (Superlative)