

Name: _____

Read and Discover


Comparative and Superlative Modifiers

Lesson 59

8

The Amazon River is **more powerful** than the Missouri River. The Amazon is the **most powerful** river in the world.

Circle the boldfaced words that compare the Amazon River with the Missouri River. Underline the boldfaced words that compare the Amazon River with more than one other river.

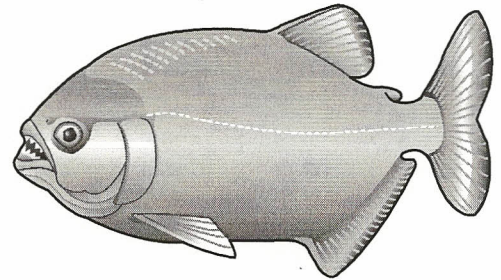
The **comparative form** of an **adjective** or **adverb** compares two people, places, things, or actions. Add *-er* to short adjectives and adverbs to create the comparative form. Use the word *more* before long adjectives and adverbs to create the comparative form (*more powerful*). The **superlative form** compares three or more people, places, things, or actions. Add *-est* to create the superlative form of short adjectives and adverbs. Use the word *most* before long adjectives and adverbs to create the superlative form (*most powerful*). Use *better* and *less* to compare two things. Use *best* and *least* to compare three or more things.  **Remember to use this information when you speak, too.**

See Handbook Section 27

Part 1

Think about how many things are being compared in each sentence. Then underline the correct form of the adjective or adverb in parentheses.

1. For many years, geographers agreed that the Nile River was the (longer/longest) river in the world.
2. In 2007, some Brazilian scientists claimed that the Amazon River stretched slightly (farther/farthest).
3. Geographers have yet to agree on the Amazon's precise length, but they have proven that it carries (more water/most water) than any other river.
4. In fact, the volume of water flowing through the Amazon is (greater/greatest) than the volume of water in the Nile, the Mississippi, and the Yangtze rivers combined.
5. The Amazon begins in the Andes Mountains of Peru, at a site (higher/highest) than 17,000 feet in elevation.
6. As the Amazon wends its way toward the Atlantic Ocean, more than 200 (smaller/smallest) rivers flow into it.
7. Many unusual fish live in the Amazon; piranha are among the (fiercer/fiercest) fish on the planet.
8. One of the (larger/largest) freshwater fish of South America, the pirarucú, lives in the Amazon.
9. The rainforest that covers the Amazon River Basin is the world's (larger/largest) tropical rainforest.
10. Some of its birds are the (more colorful/most colorful) species ever seen.
11. Today, many scientists have called for the Amazon basin's resources to be guarded (more carefully/most carefully) than they have been in the past.



About 20 species of piranha live in the Amazon.