

The OLD man -vs- The OLDEST man (1)

Deciding when to use a **regular** adjective or a **superlative** adjective after “the”

The old man. This just says there is a man and he is old. (Regular)

*The **old man** had many great interesting stories.*

To use the superlative, you need to add things like: “in the world”, “in history”, “ever”, etc.

The oldest man. This needs to be followed by one of the expressions mentioned above:

*That guy is **the oldest man** I have ever met.*

*This is **the most dangerous** place in town.*

Decide whether you need a **regular** or a **superlative** adjective below:

ex. This is the **most expensive** movie ever made. (expensive)

1. The _____ children laughed and played in the pool. (excited)
2. I ate the _____ oysters and was the _____ ever. (bad/sick)
3. Today is cold, but yesterday was the _____ day all week. (cold)
4. The _____ and _____ musical I saw on Broadway was the _____ musical I have ever seen. (entertaining/funny/good)
5. That's the _____ girl I saw on the train earlier today! (gorgeous)
6. Tom is the _____ person I have ever met. (lonely)
7. Morning trains are the _____ trains all day. (crowded)
8. I live behind the _____ building over there. (tall)
9. I can't find the _____ Halloween costume I wore last year. Everyone said it was the _____ costume at the _____ party. (scary/cool/crazy/wild)
10. Christmas is the _____ time for kids around the world. (happy)
11. The _____ rain made me the _____ I've ever been in my life. (hard/wet)
12. Downtown is the _____ part of our city. (dirty)
13. That's the _____ guy who stole the _____ painting from the _____ museum in America! (terrible/rare/old)
14. Who's the _____ kid who helped the _____ woman cross the street? (nice/old)
15. Nelson Mandela is one of the _____ people in history. (famous)
16. My _____ teacher gives the _____ tests at school. (cruel/hard)
17. The _____ winding mountain road is the cause of many accidents from some of the _____ drivers who use it. (dangerous/ speedy)
18. Disneyland calls itself “The _____ Place on Earth!” And from the _____ children I saw, I think it's true! (Happy/ ecstatic)
19. The _____ train system in Tokyo is one of the _____ train systems in the world. (extensive/confusing)