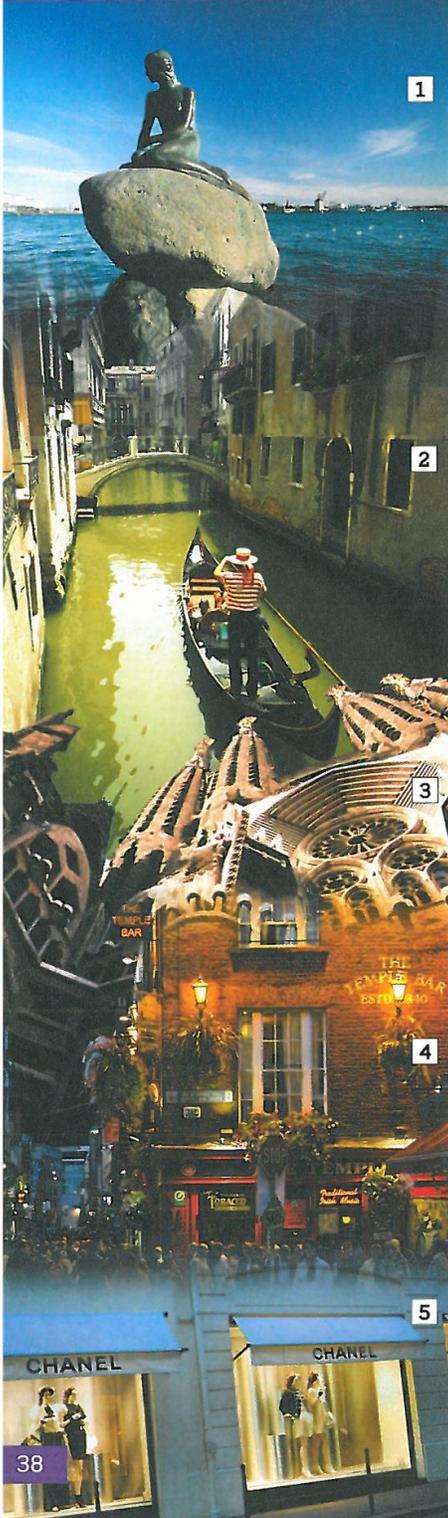


G superlatives (+ ever + present perfect)
 V describing a town or city
 P word and sentence stress

What did you think of Rio? It's the most beautiful city I've ever been to.

5B Superlative cities



1

1 GRAMMAR superlatives (+ ever + present perfect)

a Match the photos and cities. Which European countries are the cities in? What do you know about them? Have you been to any of them?

Barcelona Copenhagen Dublin Paris Venice

b Read the article and complete it with the cities in a.

Travel survey gives its verdict on European cities

London is **the dirtiest** city in Europe says a new survey by travel website TripAdvisor, but it has **the best** public parks and the best nightlife. According to the survey of almost 2,400 travellers...

‘Europe’s big cities all have their highs and lows, but they offer travellers a huge variety of culture and sights within very short distances,’ said a TripAdvisor spokesman.

- 1 _____ is **the most romantic** city.
- 2 _____ is **the cleanest** city.
- 3 _____ has **the best-dressed** people.
- 4 _____ has **the best** architecture.
- 5 _____ is **the friendliest** city.

c Look at 1–5 in the survey in b. Think about your country or continent. Which cities would you choose?

d Look at the **bold** superlative adjectives in the survey. How do you make the superlative of...?

- | | |
|--|------------------------------|
| 1 a one-syllable adjective | 3 a three-syllable adjective |
| 2 a two-syllable adjective that ends in -y | 4 <i>good</i> and <i>bad</i> |

e ➤ p.134 Grammar Bank 5B. Learn more about superlatives and practise them.

2 PRONUNCIATION word and sentence stress

a Underline the stressed syllable in the **bold** adjectives.

- 1 What’s the most **beautiful** city you’ve ever been to?
- 2 What’s the most **expensive** thing you’ve ever bought?
- 3 Who’s the most **impatient** person you know?
- 4 Who’s the most **generous** person in your family?
- 5 What’s the most **frightening** film you’ve ever seen?
- 6 What’s the most **exciting** sport you’ve ever done?
- 7 What’s the most **interesting** book you’ve read recently?
- 8 What’s the most **romantic** restaurant you’ve ever been to?

b (2/44) Listen and check. Listen again and repeat the questions. Copy the rhythm. Which words are stressed?

c Work with a partner. A answer question 1 with a sentence. B ask for more information. Swap roles for question 2, etc.

The most beautiful city I've ever been to is Rio de Janeiro. When did you go there?



5B superlatives

- 1 It's **the dirtiest** city in Europe. (2, 43))
It's **the most popular** holiday destination in the world.
- 2 It's **the most beautiful** city I've ever been to.
It's **the best** film I've seen this year.

- 1 Use *the* + superlative adjective to say which is the biggest, etc. in a group.
 - After superlatives we use *in* + names of places or singular words for groups of people, e.g.
*It's **the noisiest** city **in** the world.*
- 2 We often use *the* + superlative adjective with the present perfect + *ever*.

adjective	comparative	superlative
cold	colder	the coldest
hot	hotter	the hottest
pretty	prettier	the prettiest
beautiful	more beautiful	the most beautiful
good	better	the best
bad	worse	the worst
far	further	the furthest

5B

- a Complete the sentences with the superlative.

Is this *the biggest* city in the world? (big)

- 1 This are _____ people I've ever met. (polite)
- 2 Yesterday was _____ day of the year. (hot)
- 3 This is _____ time to drive to the city. (bad)
- 4 She's _____ girl at school. (friendly)
- 5 This is _____ part of the exam. (important)
- 6 _____ time to visit New England is autumn. (good)
- 7 Ulan Bator is one of _____ cities in the world. (polluted)
- 8 _____ I've ever flown is to Bali. (far)
- 9 That's definitely _____ film I've ever seen. (funny)
- 10 Rob's daughters are all pretty, but I think Emily is _____. (pretty)

- b Write sentences with a superlative + *ever* + the present perfect.

It / good film / I / see

It's the best film I've ever seen.

- 1 It / hot country / I be to
- 2 She / unfriendly person / I / meet
- 3 It / easy exam / he / do
- 4 They / expensive trousers / I / buy
- 5 It / long film / I / watch
- 6 He / attractive man / I / see
- 7 It / bad meal / I / eat
- 8 He / interesting teacher / I / have
- 9 It / exciting job / we / do

◀ p.38





Superlatives

Revision chart: Come up with your own examples of superlatives

	+ <i>est</i>	<i>y > i + est</i>	<i>The most/least + adjective</i>	Irregular
One-syllable adjective	i.e. clean > clean <u>est</u>			
	i.e. (students' own example)			
Two-syllable adjective ending in y		i.e. friendl <u>y</u> > friendl <u>iest</u>		
		i.e.		
Three-syllable adjective			i.e. romantic > <u>the most</u> romantic	
			i.e.	
Irregular adjective				i.e. good > best
				i.e.





Answers:

1a. Copenhagen, Venice, Barcelona, Dublin, Paris

1b. Venice, Copenhagen, Paris, Barcelona, Dublin

1d. the + *est*, the + *iest* (omit the *y*), the + most + 3 syllable adjective, the + irregular superlative

2a. BEAUtiful, exPENsive, impPATient, GENErous, FRIGHtening, exCIting, INteresting, roMANtic

5b (a):

1. The most polite
2. The hottest
3. The worst
4. The friendliest
5. The most important
6. The best
7. The most polluted
8. The farthest/furthest
9. The funniest
10. The prettiest

5b (b):

1. It is the hottest country I've been to.
2. She's the most unfriendly person I've met.
3. It is the easiest exam he has ever done.
4. They're the most expensive trousers I've ever bought.
5. It's the longest film I've ever watched.
6. He's the most attractive man I've ever seen.
7. It's the worst meal I've ever eaten.
8. He's the most interesting teacher I've ever had.
9. It's the most exciting job we've ever done.

Adapted from New English File Third Edition, Pre-Intermediate. OUP. Oxenden and Latham-Koenig. Student's Book Page 38 and 135

