

Unit 3

What is the Longest River in the World?



Mt. Qomolangma is the highest mountain in the world.



The Nile River is longer than any other river in the world.



The Sahara Desert is the largest desert in the world.



Giraffe is taller than most of the animals in the world.

- **Grammar Focus:** comparatives & superlatives
- **Unit Objectives:**
 - ✓ Listening: Students will be able to use listening skills (listening for specific info) to comprehend dialogues;
 - ✓ Speaking: Students will be able to role play the listening dialogues with your partners and keep a conversation going;
 - ✓ Reading: Students will be able to use scanning and skimming to search for info in the reading passage;
 - ✓ Writing: Students will be able to write a short essay about how to protect endangered animals.
- **Collocation:** "long"

Warm-up

Use adjectives (e.g., tall, small, cute, big, etc.) to describe these pictures.



Listening I

Write True (T) if the statements are correct or False (F) if incorrect.

- 1) Vatican City is the smallest country in the world. ()
- 2) Cape of Good Hope is the smallest storm area in the world. ()
- 3) The Coral Sea is the smallest sea in the world. ()
- 4) The Congo Basin is the biggest basin in the world. ()

Speaking I

Read the conversation with your partner.

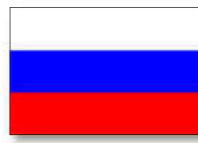
- 1) Vatican City: the smallest country in the world.
- 2) Cape of Good Hope: the smallest storm area in the world.
- 3) The Coral Sea: the smallest sea in the world.
- 4) The Congo Basin: the biggest basin in the world.

A: Do you know which country is the smallest in the world?

B: Vatican City is the smallest country in the world.

Reading I

- a. Before you read, look at these three flags and discuss with your partner what you know about them.



1. What countries do these flags belong to?
2. Do you know anything about these countries?

China: China is one of the oldest countries in the world with a history of more than 5000 years. China is the biggest developing country with the largest population in the world. China is 9.6 million km² large which is almost as big as Europe.



Russia: Russia is the largest country in the world at 17million km². Russia has many natural resources. It is one of the most resourceful countries.

India: India has the second largest population in the world and the growth of the population is faster than any other country. Religion plays a very important role in India, and most people in India believe in Hinduism.



- b. While you read, answer the questions below.

- 1) Order the countries from the largest to the smallest.

Russia

India

China

Europe

_____ > _____ ≈ _____ > _____

- 2) Are these statements true according to the passage? Circle T for true and F for false.

- 1) China is the oldest country in the world. T/F
- 2) India is smaller than Russia. T/F
- 3) India's population is larger than China's. T/F

- c. After you read, underline the adjectives and see what you notice about the adjectives?

Grammar Focus

a. Rules of comparatives and superlatives

1. Comparative adjectives are used to compare two people or things.

- India is a big country. It is 2.98 million km².
- China is 9.6 million km², so China is bigger than India.



2. Superlative adjectives are used to compare two or more things.

- Russia is at the top of the world in size among all of the countries, so Russia is the biggest country.



b. Regular changes of comparatives and superlatives

1. Generally, we add "er" or "est" at the end of an adjective.

Adjectives	Comparative	Superlative
fast	faster	the fastest
old	older	the oldest
long	longer	the longest
high	higher	the highest

There are also some special changes:

- large larger the largest
- heavy heavier the heaviest
- big bigger the biggest

2. If the adjective has more than 2 syllables, then we add "more" or "the most" in the front of it.

Adjectives	Comparative	Superlative
important	more important	the most important
expensive	more expensive	the most expensive
beautiful	more beautiful	the most beautiful

c. Irregular changes of comparatives and superlatives

Adjectives	Comparative	Superlative
many	more	the most
little/few	less	the least
good	better	the best
bad	worse	the worst

d. Sentence structures about comparatives and superlatives



Adj+ er than...	China is bigger than India.
The adj+ est (in...)	Russia is the biggest country (in the world).
adj+ er than anyone else	The Nile river is longer than any other river (in the world).
As adj as...	The Sahara desert is almost as big as the US.
One of the adj+ est...	China is one of the oldest countries (in the world).
Multiple adj+er than...	China is two times larger than India.

Grammar Task

a. Fill in the blanks with correct forms of adjectives.

- 1) My sister is 2 years _____ (old) than me.
- 2) Whales are _____ (big) animals in the world.
- 3) Tim woke up _____ (early) than me this morning.
- 4) I am not good at math, at science I am even _____ (bad).
- 5) Health is _____ (important) than wealth.

b. Compare these places of interests and write down the differences.

Taj Mahal		The Palace Museum	
	Built in 1648		Built in 1420
	170000m ²		720000m ²
	About 38¥ per person		60¥ per person
	40000 tourists per day		46000 tourists per day

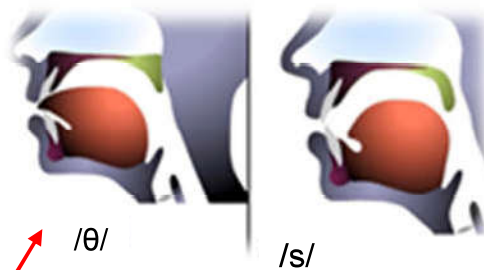
E.g. The Palace museum is older than Taj Mahal.

- 1) _____
- 2) _____
- 3) _____

Pronunciation


a. Listen and repeat

Sing [sɪŋ]	Thing [θɪŋ]
Sick [sɪk]	Thick [θɪk]
Sum [sʌm]	Thumb [θʌm]
Sank [sæŋk]	Thank [θæŋk]



Tongue between your teeth!


b. Think or sink?



What do you **think** of panda?

I **sink** they are cute.

???



It should be 'I think!' - Wrong pronunciation may lead to misunderstanding!

c. Read the sentences aloud.

1. Something is better than nothing.
2. Father and mother went through thick and thin.
3. There are 33,333 feathers on that bird's throat.
4. Although there are two kinds of clothing, I do not think either of them is worthy.
5. There is a thunder thane standing on the sand.

d. Listen and circle the words you hear.

E.g.: seize these

1. some thumb
2. saw thaw
3. sigh thigh
4. song thong
5. symbol thimble

Listening II

- a. **Pre-listening:** How do you go to travel? By airplane, bus or others? Why?

I often travel by bus, because...

- b. **While-listening:** Listen to the dialogue and fill in the blanks.

Date: 2019/4/30 (Tue)
Destination: New Delhi, India
Departure: _____
Arrival: _____



Date: 2019/5/1 (Wed)
Destination: Moscow, Russia
Departure: _____
Arrival: _____



Speaking II

- a. Role play the conversation with your partner.

Tom: Hi, I would like to make a reservation to New Delhi for the labor day holiday.

Jerry: When do you want to fly?

Tom: On April 30th.

Jerry: Just a moment please... We have two flights on that day, flight ND504 leaves at 10a.m. and flight ND505 leaves at 8p.m.

Tom: How long is the flight?

Jerry: 6 hours.

Tom: Hmmm, I think the earlier one is better. I will take flight ND504.

Jerry: Flight ND504 to New Delhi at 10 a.m. on April 30th, is that right?

Tom: Yes, thank you.

Jerry: My pleasure.

You can use gestures,
facial expressions,
body language...

- b. Make conversations with your group members by comparing the two air tickets below.

Date: 2019/4/30 (Tue)
Destination: New Delhi, India
Departure: 10:00
Arrival: 16:00
Prize: 2000¥
Luggage allowance: 1

Date: 2019/5/1 (Wed)
Destination: Moscow, Russia
Departure: 9:00
Arrival: 18:00
Prize: 4000¥
Luggage allowance: 2

Reading II

a. Talk about polar bears with your partners. Use these words to help you.

big cute protect white lovely

b. Read the passage and answer the questions.

Polar bears are one of the largest carnivorous (食肉的) animals found on land. They are also the largest bear. An adult male polar bear weighs around 350-680 kilograms, while an adult female polar bear is about half that size. They have a thick skin, which is easier for them to keep warm. Their speed is up to 60 km per hour, which is 1.5 times faster than the world 100-meter champion.

Skimming: This means looking quickly through a piece of writing to find the main idea without reading every word.

Polar bear likes eating meat, especially the seal (海豹). They eat sea elephant, white whale or fish, too. Polar bear can eat as much as 70 kilograms of meat a day, which is almost 7 times more than a panda does. However, the life expectancy of a polar bear is not that long. They hardly ever live older than 25. The oldest wild bear on record died at age 32, whereas the oldest captive (圈养) was a female who died in 1991, age 43.



However, polar bears are now facing the danger of dying out mainly for two reasons. First of all, people are cutting down forests, so the environment gets warmer and warmer. The ice of the Arctic Ocean melts, so the polar bears lose their home. Besides, the sea is being polluted by human beings, so many animals which live in the sea die. As a result, the polar bear cannot get enough food.

What can we do to protect the polar bear? Firstly, we can take a bus instead of taking a taxi. It can protect the environment as well as save our money. Second, we can set the air conditioner to 26 degrees or higher, which can largely reduce greenhouse gas emissions (排放). It is our responsibility to protect this kind of beautiful and lovely animal, we hope that in the future there will be a lot more polar bears.

Scanning: This means moving your eyes quickly down the page to find specific information.

c. Skim the passage. What is the main idea of this passage? Write down the number. ()

- 1) The competition between a polar bear and the world 100-meter champion
- 2) The current situation of polar bears and ways to protect them
- 3) The life expectancy of a polar bear is not very long.

d. Scan the passage. Do the following statements agree with the information given in the passage?

Write True (T) or False (F) for each sentence.

- 1) An adult male polar bear is two times larger than an adult female bear. ()
- 2) The oldest wild bear died at the age of 43. ()
- 3) The speed of the world's 100-meter champion is up to 60 km/h. ()

e. Discuss the following questions with your partners.

- Think about other endangered animals.
- In what other ways do you think children can help save endangered animals?

Writing

a. Recall the passage you have read and match the information.

1. Who is the largest bear?
2. Where do they live?
3. What do they like eating?
4. How long do they live?
5. Why do they have to be protected?

- a. They like eating meat, especially seal meat.
- b. A harsh environment, such as the Arctic Ocean.
- c. Take a bus instead of taking a taxi
- d. People are cutting down forests, so the environment is getting warmer and warmer.
- e. Polar bears.
- f. Set the air conditioner to 26 degrees, which can largely reduce greenhouse gas emissions
- g. They rarely live beyond 25 years.
- h. The sea is being polluted by human beings.

b. Look at the following pictures and read the following sentences.

Three of the Most Endangered Animals in the World



Sea turtles are the most endangered species in the world. In the past 100 years, the Hawksbill Turtle has lost 90 percent of its population, 80 percent of which has been lost in the past 10 years.



In the past 25 years, the **Sumatran Elephant** has lost 70% of its habitat. Less than 2000 are estimated to exist since 2011.



Blue whales are the largest animals in the sea. However, they are in danger because humans catch them for meat, fat, oil, etc. The number of whales is less and less every year.

- c. Discuss with your group members, why these animals should be protected, and what can we do to protect them?

Brainstorming	
Why do they need to be protected?	What can we do to protect them?

- d. Write a short essay about why we need to protect endangered animals and how to protect them. You need to use at least two superlatives and two comparatives.

Words limit: 80 words.

You may need:

Phrases: live in, look like, stop doing something, instead of...

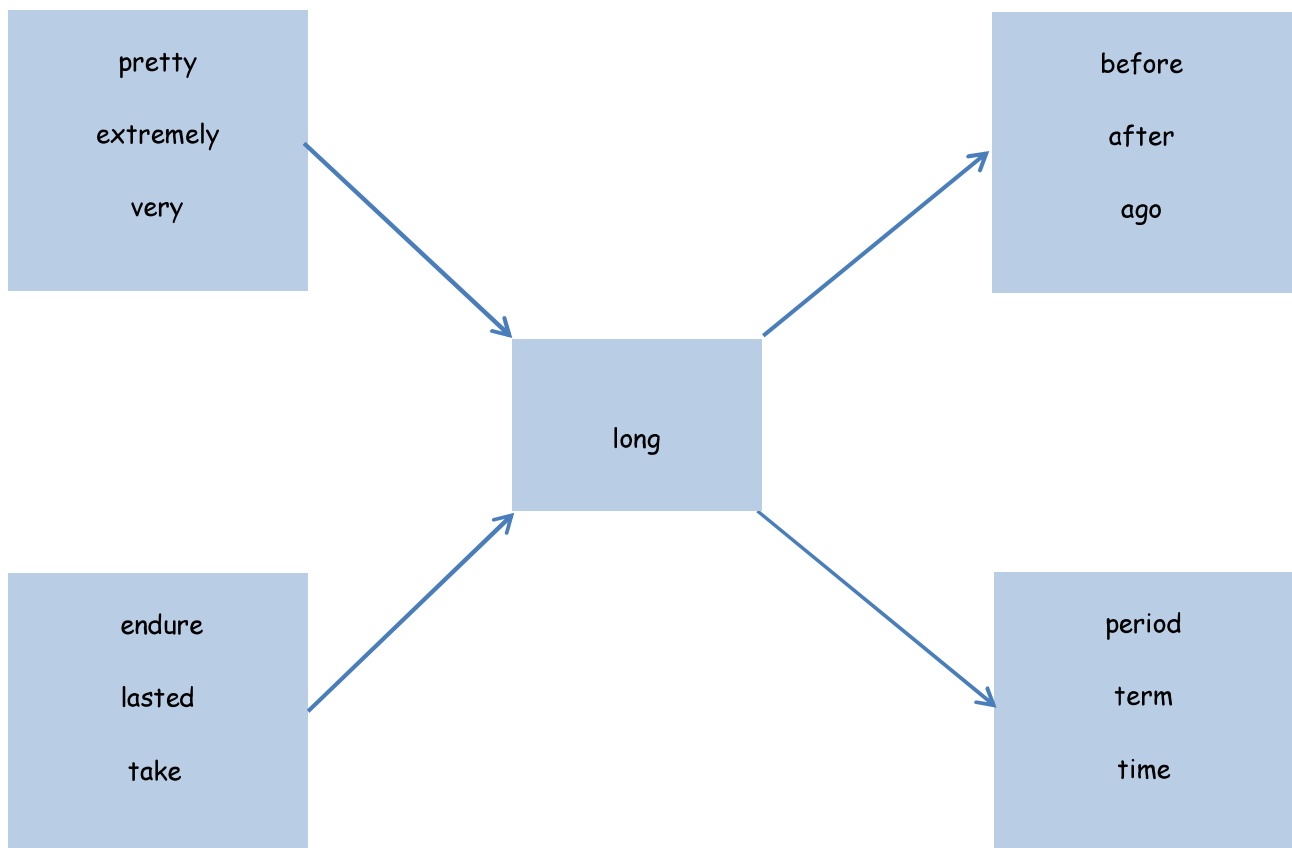
Transition words: first of all, moreover, therefore, last but not least...

Sentence patterns: not only...but also..., the reason of... can be listed as...



Word Awareness

The top left box shows some adjectives/adverbs that be used with *long*. The bottom left box shows some verbs that can be used with *long*. The top right box shows collocations that refer to a specific time. The bottom left box shows collocations to modify time.



Examples:

The Earth has existed for a **pretty long** time.

The new marvel movie is **extremely long**.

She is only twenty-six, so her early twenties were not very **long ago**.

Astronauts have to **endure long period** of stress.

Not **long after** his big book was published, the War began.

This country was divided **long before** I got here.

It may **take long time** to prepare the examination.

Words you need to know

destination (n.) /,des.tɪ'nei.ʃən/ or /,des.tə'nei.ʃən/. The place where someone is going or where something is being sent or taken. 目的地。 We arrived at our destination tired and hungry.

endangered (adj.) /ɪn'deɪn.dʒəd/ or /ɪn'deɪn.dʒəd/. animals or plants that may soon not exist because there are very few now alive. 濒临灭绝的。 I open four doors of my heart to endangered animals.

endure (v.) /ɪn'dʒʊə/ or /ɪn'dʊr/. to suffer something difficult, unpleasant, or painful. 忍耐。 She's already had to endure three painful operations on her leg.

environment (n.) /ɪn'vaɪ.rən.mənt/ or /ɪn'vaɪ.rən.mənt/. the air, water, and land in or on which people, animals, and plants live. 环境。 All of us should protect the environment.

exist (v.) /ɪg'zɪst/ or /ɪg'zɪst/. to be real or present. 存在。 Few people can exist without water for more than a week.

expensive (adj.) /ɪk'spen.sɪv/ or /ɪk'spen.sɪv/. costing of a lot of money. 昂贵的。 It's one of the most expensive hotels in China.

extremely (adv.) /ɪk'stri:m.li/ or /ɪk'stri:m.li/. very, or much more than usual. 非常。 She was extremely intelligent.

flight (n.) /flaɪt/ or /flaɪt/. a journey in an aircraft. 航班。 The flight to Chicago took 4 hours

forest (n.) /'fɒr.ɪst/ or /'fɔ:r.ɪst/. a large area of land covered with trees and plants, usually larger than a wood, or the trees and plants themselves. 森林。 The children got lost in the forest.

important (adj.) /ɪm'pɔ:t.ənt/ or /ɪm'pɔ:r.tənt/. necessary or of great value. 重要的。 I have something important to do.

period (n.) /'pɪə.ri.əd/ or /'pɪr.i.əd/. a length of time. 一段时间。 The study will be carried out over a six-month period.

population (n.) /,pɒp.jə'leɪ.ʃən/ or /,pɑ:.pjə'leɪ.ʃən/. all the people living in a particular country, area, or place. 人口。 The town's population is about 15,000 today.

rarely (adv.) /'reə.li/ or /'rer.li/. not often. 罕有地。 I do, but I rarely watch them.

record (n.) /'rek.ɔ:d/ or /'rek.əd/. a piece of information or a description of an event that is written on paper or stored on a computer. 记录。 The weather center keeps a record of the weather.

wild (adj.) /waɪld/ or /waɪld/. A wild animal or plant lives or grows in its natural environment and not where people live. 野生的；荒凉的。 You can see a lot of wild animals in the zoo.