

# COMPARATIVES, SUPERLATIVES

## GRAMMAR

### A) Comparison of adjectives

Adjectives are compared in Latin in the same manner as in English. There are three degrees of comparison

- a. **POSITIVE** expresses quality of one person or thing on its own.
- b. **COMPARATIVE** compares one person or thing with another and enable us to say whether a person or thing has more or less of a particular quality.
  - a. All comparative forms are declined according to paradigms: **DOLOR** (M., F.) and **CORPUS** (N.)
  - b. All three genders share the same Genitive ending – **IORIS** and Ablative ending – **ORE**
  - c. Neuters have a special ending **-IUS** in Nominative (=Accusative) Sg. and – **ORA** in Pl.

	singular		plural	
nominative	brevior	brevius	breviores	breviora
genitive	brevioris		breviorum	
accusative	breviorem	brevius	breviores	breviora
ablative	breviore		brevioribus	

- c. **SUPERLATIVE** describes one person or thing as having the most of a quality of all other people or things in a group.
  - a. All superlative forms end in **–US, –A, –UM** and are declined like adjectives of 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> declension
- d. **Irregular and incomplete forms:**

magnus, a, um > maior, maius > maximus a, um    (*big, bigger, the biggest*)  
parvus, a, um > minor, minus > minimus, a, um    (*small smaller, the smallest*)

ante > anterior, ius > ∅  
post > posterior, ius > postremus a, um  
supra > superior, ius > supremus, a, um  
infra > inferior, ius > infimus/imus, a, um  
intra > interior, ius > intimus, a, um

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## EXERCISES

### Task 1: Form comparatives and superlatives from given adjectives:

parvus, a, um	.....	.....
brevis, e	.....	.....
fortis, e	.....	.....
acutus, a, um	.....	.....
magnus, a, um	.....	.....
longus, a, um	.....	.....
gravis, e	.....	.....
profundus, a, um	.....	.....
latus, a, um	.....	.....

### Task 2: Fill in comparatives and superlatives in correct forms:

<i>minimus, a, um</i>	musculus abductor digiti .....
<i>minor, minus</i>	cornu .....ossis hyoidei
<i>superior, ius</i>	defectus arcus dentalis .....
<i>intimus, a, um</i>	musculi intercostales .....
<i>inferior, ius</i>	amputatio membri .....
<i>imus, a, um</i>	arteriae lumbales .....
<i>anterior, ius</i>	peritoneum parietale .....
<i>latissimus, a, um</i>	ruptura musculi .....dorsi
<i>posterior, ius</i>	arteria temporalis profunda .....

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### **Task 3: Form comparatives and superlatives from the given forms of adjectives:**

in foraminibus parvis .....  
post traumata gravia .....  
laesio partis mollis .....  
ulcus frequens .....  
in tunica interna .....  
cum dolore acuto .....  
fractura cornuum magnorum .....  
propter infarctum recentem .....  
medicamenta fortia .....

### **Task 4: Give the opposites:**

lobus inferior / .....  
facies externa / .....ossis frontalis  
circulatio sanguinis minor / .....  
foramen ischiadicum majus / .....  
musculus adductor brevis / .....  
pars posterior / .....linguae  
tunica interna / .....vasorum  
segmentum anterius / .....lobi superioris pulmonis dextri.  
meatus nasi superior / .....

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### **Task 5: Create meaningful diagnoses:**

a) pro / dosis / infantibus / maxima

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b) oris / chronicum / superioris / ulcus / labii

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c) sepsim / propter / lateris / amputatio / membri / sinistri / inferioris

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d) gastritidis / minoris / suspicio / gradus

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e) inferioris / dextri / rami / et / ossis / fractura / superioris / pubis / lateris

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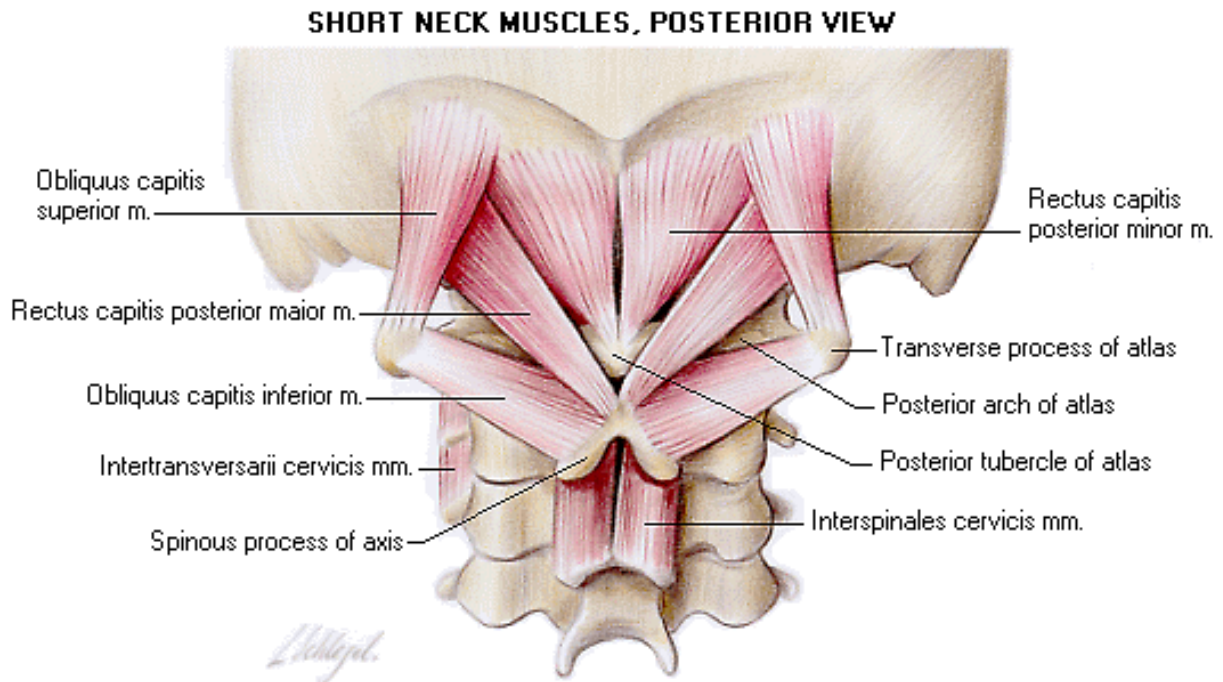
### **Task 6: Translate:**

shorter bone	
more severe injury	
bigger danger	
bigger sublingual duct	
in the upper hollow vein	
the longest muscle of the upper limb	
lesser curvature of ventricle of heart	
posterior deep temporal artery	
fracture of the middle phalanx of the smallest finger	
the most recent infarction	

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the most frequent disease	
the innermost layer of oesophagus	
amputation of the lower limb due to gangraena caused by diabetes mellitus	

**Task 7: Put the correct Latin anatomical terms:**



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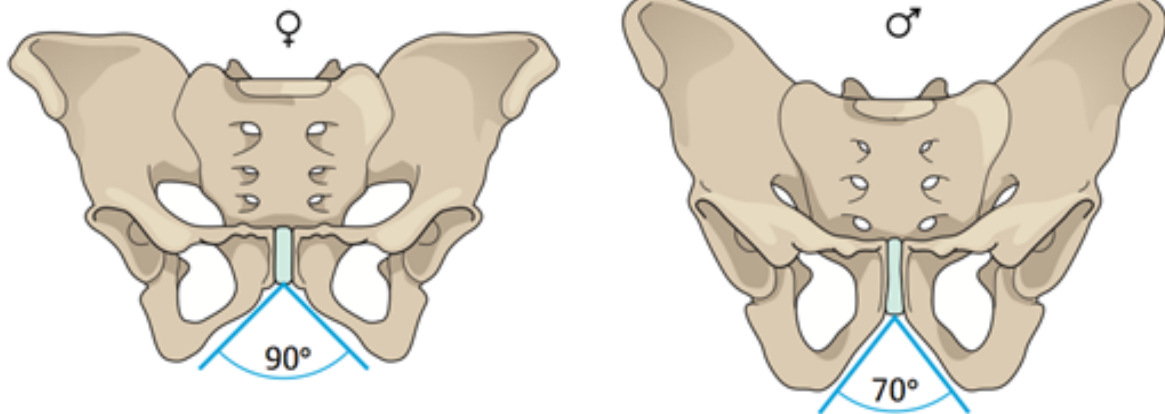
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**Task 8:** Decide whether the following sentences are true/false:



		TRUE	FALSE
1.	Pelvis feminina levior est.		
2.	Pelvis masculina latior est.		
3.	Apertura superior pelvis femininae major est.		
4.	Cavitas pelvis femininae angustior est.		
5.	Os sacrum pelvis masculinae brevius est.		
6.	Os sacrum pelvis femininae latius est.		
7.	Foramina obturatoria pelvis femininae majora sunt.		
8.	Acetabula feminina majora sunt.		
9.	Coccyx feminina brevior est.		
10.	Angulus alarum ossis ilii masculini minor est.		
11.	Promontorium femininum minus est.		
12.	Symphysis pubica feminina longior est.		