

## Positive-Defective Comparative Adjectives

1. Summary of Defection
  - 1.1. Ordinary adjectives have a positive, comparative and superlative form
  - 1.2. The following comparative and superlative forms either (a) have **no positive** form, (b) have a **preposition** as their positive form, (c) have an **adverb** as their positive form or (d) have only **very rare positive** adjectives
2. Comparatives With **No** Positives
  - 2.1. — / **ōcior, -ius / ōcissimus, -a, -um** : — / swifter / swiftest
  - 2.2. — / **potior, -ius / potissimus, -, um** : — / preferred / most preferred
3. Comparatives with **Adverbial** Positives
  - 3.1. **cis, citrā / citerior, -ius / citimus, -a, -um** : on this side / hither / hithermost
  - 3.2. **prope / propior, -ius / proximus, -a, um** : near / nearer / nearest, next
  - 3.3. **ultrā / ulterior, -ius / ultimus, -a, -um** : beyond / farther / farthest
4. Comparatives with **Prepositional** Positives
  - 4.1. **dē / dēterior, -ius / dēterrimus, -a, -um** : down / worse / worse (n.b. *not* more down)
  - 4.2. **in, intrā / interior, -ius / intimus, -a, -um** : in, within / inner / inmost
  - 4.3. **prae, prō / prior, -ius / prīmus, -a, -um** : before / former / first
5. Comparatives with **Rare** Positives
  - 5.1. **exterus, -a, -um / exterior, -ius / extrēmus, -a, -um** : outward / outer / outmost
  - 5.2. **īferus, -a, -um / īferior, -ius / īfimus (-īmus), -a, -um** : below / lower / lowest
  - 5.3. **posterus, -a, -um / posterior, -ius / postrēmus (postumus), -a, -um** : following / later / last (last-born)
  - 5.4. **superus, -a, um / superior, -ius / suprēmus (summus), -a, -um** : above / higher / highest

Positives in this last category, where they appear, are substantives. The **īferī** are the gods the underworld, **extrēmī** are foreigners and **Postumus** is a common surname.

(None of the sets are highlight as more common or more worthy of memorizing because these are *all* common and *all* worth of memorizing. Get cracking.)

Essential AG: 130, 130a-b

Famous Phrase: **videō meliōra probōque / dēteriōra sequor**

(I see and approve the better, but follow the worse) [Ovid, *Metamorphoses*, 7.20-1]