

COMPARATIVE ADJECTIVES

by Seda Sürel

INTRODUCTION

Comparative meaning in Turkish is formed by placing daha before an adjective. The structure expresses a higher degree of a quality relative to another entity. The adjective remains unchanged.

1. Function

The comparative indicates relative degree.

The marker daha precedes the adjective and does not inflect for number or case.

2. Structure

The comparative sequence is:

daha + adjective + noun (in attributive position)

or

subject + daha + adjective (in predicative position)

The adjective does not take any morphological marking in comparative use.

3. Word Order

The fixed order is:

daha + adjective + noun

Examples:

daha büyük ev

daha güzel şehir

daha hızlı yol

In predicative position, daha directly precedes the adjective.

4. Predicate Use

When used as a predicate, the adjective takes personal endings according to nominal predication:

- daha büyük → daha büyüğüm
- daha güzel → daha güzelsin
- daha hızlı → daha hızlıyız
- daha sakın → daha sakınlar

The comparative marker daha preserves its position.

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5. Usage

Comparatives express:

- contrast between entities
- increase in quality or intensity
- relative comparison

No superlative meaning is encoded by daha.

Examples

- Daha büyük ev istiyorum. — I want a bigger house.
- Bu yol daha uzun. — This road is longer.
- O daha hızlı. — He/She is faster.
- Biz daha hazırız. — We are more ready.
- Siz daha sakin görünüyorsunuz. — You appear calmer.
- Onlar daha güçlü. — They are stronger.

Notes

- Adjectives remain uninflected in comparative use.
- daha precedes the adjective in all environments.
- Comparative interpretation is contextual; no morphological marking appears on the adjective.