

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 sakin* → *daha sakinler*

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.