

# Subjunctive After Superlatives and Unique Expressions

## Worksheet

Subjunctive follows superlatives (le plus, le meilleur, le seul, le premier) because they express a subjective judgment rather than an objective fact. The speaker is evaluating, not stating certainty.

## Questions

1. Complete: C'est le meilleur professeur que je \_\_\_\_ connu.  
A) ai  
B) aie  
C) a  
D) était
2. Does 'Elle est plus grande que je le pensais' use subjunctive?  
A) Yes, after plus  
B) No, comparative uses indicative  
C) Only sometimes  
D) Subjunctive required
3. Complete: C'est la seule solution qui \_\_\_\_ acceptable.  
A) soit  
B) est  
C) sera  
D) serait
4. Which triggers subjunctive?  
A) Le plus grand film  
B) Un film intéressant  
C) Ce film est long  
D) Le film que j'aime
5. C'est le film le plus intéressant que j'aie jamais vu. (It is the most interesting film I have ever seen.)
6. Elle est la seule personne qui puisse résoudre ce problème. (She is the only person who can solve this problem.)
7. C'est le premier livre qu'il ait écrit. (It is the first book he has written.)
8. Define: Which superlatives trigger subjunctive?
9. Define: Example with le meilleur
10. Define: Do comparative adjectives trigger subjunctive?

## Answer Key

1. B) aie — After the superlative le meilleur, use past subjunctive: aie (that I have). C'est le meilleur professeur que j'aie connu.
2. B) No, comparative uses indicative — No. Comparatives (plus, moins) use indicative. Only superlatives (le plus) trigger subjunctive.
3. A) soit — After la seule (the only), use subjunctive. Soit is present subjunctive of être. C'est la seule solution qui soit acceptable.
4. A) Le plus grand film — Le plus grand film (the biggest film—superlative) triggers subjunctive in the relative clause that follows.
5. Superlative: le plus intéressant (the most interesting) Subjunctive trigger: judgment, not fact Subjunctive clause: que j'aie jamais vu (past subjunctive, that I have ever seen)
6. Unique expression: la seule (the only) Subjunctive trigger: restriction/uniqueness Subjunctive clause: qui puisse résoudre (present subjunctive, who can solve)
7. Superlative/ordinal: le premier (the first) Subjunctive trigger: ordinal/ranking judgment Subjunctive clause: qu'il ait écrit (past subjunctive, that he has written)
8. Le plus (the most), le moins (the least), le meilleur (the best), le pire (the worst), le seul (the only), le premier (the first), le dernier (the last). These express judgment, not fact.
9. C'est le meilleur film que j'aie vu. (It is the best film I have seen—past subjunctive)
10. No. Comparatives (plus grand, moins riche) use indicative: Elle est plus riche qu'il est. Only superlatives and unique expressions use subjunctive.

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