

III. When an adjective ends in *y* preceded by a consonant, the *y* is changed to *i* before adding *er* or *est*. Happy+er=*happier*; but gray+er=*grayer*, because the *y* is *not* preceded by a consonant.

6. When the addition of *er* or *est* would make a word too long to be pleasant to the ear, the comparative is formed by putting *more* before the positive, and the superlative by putting *most* before the positive; as *beautiful*, *more beautiful*, *most beautiful*.

Form the comparative and superlative of —

1. Doleful. 2. Generous. 3. Terrible.

7. There are some old English adjectives whose comparatives and superlatives are not formed in the ordinary way.

Positive.	Comparative.	Superlative.
Bad	Worse	Worst.
Good	Better	Best.
Little	Less	Least.
Many	More	Most.
Much	More	Most.

Exercise 12.

A.

Select the *adjective*, and tell the *degree* of comparison:

1. The best exercises. 2. A prudent man. 3. Most excellent advice. 4. A bigger basket. 5. The strongest ox. 6. The most learned of men. 7. A very elegant dress. 8. A useful invention. 9. A magnificent Italian sunrise. 10. The prettiest girl.

B.

Write sentences containing these *adjectives*:

1. Brilliant. 2. Skillful. 3. Wooden. 4. Interesting. 5. More devoted. 6. Imperfect. 7. Zealous. 8. Most pleasant. 9. Pleasant. 10. Worst.

Change papers, and write letters of criticism.