

FRENCH.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT,
ONTARIO.

JULY EXAMINATIONS, 1882.

*Intermediate.*Answered by Mamie E. Huddleston,
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I.

I. General Rule: The feminine of adjectives is formed by adding *e* mute to the masculine singular.

(1) Adjectives ending in *e* mute remain the same for the feminine—*Lc jeune fils, La jeune fille.*

(2) Adjectives ending in *f*, change *f* into *ve* for the feminine—*Vif, vive.*

(3) Adjectives ending in *x* change *x* into *se* for the feminine—*Heureux, heureuse.*

(4) Adjectives ending in *el, cil, ien, on* and *et* double the final consonant, and add *e* mute—*Bon, bonne.*

(5) Adjectives ending in *eur*, formed from a present participle by changing *ant* into *eur*, make *euse* for the feminine—*Trompeur, trompeuse.*

(6) Adjectives ending in *eur*, not derived from verbs, and conveying an idea of *opposition* or *comparison* follow the general rule, and add *e* mute—*Mineur, mineure.*

II. *On* dit qu'il est riche—*They say he is rich.*

On pense que nous aurons bientôt la paix—*It is thought that we shall soon have peace.*

L' is used before *on* after the words *et, si, où, que, qui,* and *quoi*; but if *on* is followed by *le, la* or *les*, we do not use *L'*.

III. If the subject of the sentence is a pronoun it is placed after the verb, to which it is joined by a hyphen. Is she gone? *Est-elle allée?*

(1) When the third person singular ends in a vowel *t* is inserted between the verb and pronoun—*A-t-elle?*

(2) When the verb used interrogatively ends with a mute *e* in the first person singular, that *e* takes an acute accent—*Chanté-je?*

(3) When the first person singular of a

verb used interrogatively is a monosyllable, instead of the usual form, *est-ce que* is used, followed by the nominative pronoun and the verb—*Est-ce que je vends?*

(4) When the subject of the verb is a noun, it is placed first in the sentence, and a pronoun corresponding in person and number is placed after the verb—*Vos sœurs chantent-elles?*

IV. *Y avoir.*

Ind. present *Il y a.*

Pret. indef. *Il y n eu.*

Ind. imperfect. . . . *Il y avait.*

Pluperfect *Il y avait eu.*

Ind. pret. def. . . . *Il y eut.*

Pret. ant. *Il y eut eu.*

Ind. fut. Abs. . . . *Il y aura.*

Fut. ant. *Il y aura eu.*

Falloir.

Subj. present . . . *Qu'il faille.*

Pret. *Qu'il ait fallu.*

Subj. Imperf. . . . *Qu'il fallût.*

Pluperf. *Qu'il eût fallu.*

Ouvrir, ouvrant, ouvert, j'ouvre, j'ouvris.

Tenir, tenant, tenu, Je tiens, Je tins.

Naître, naissant, né, Je nais, Ja naquis.

Croire, croyant, cru, Je crois, Je crus.

Dire, disant, dit, Je dis, Je dis.

V. (1) When the adjective ends in a vowel in the masculine, the adverb is formed by adding *ment*—*Sage, sagement.*

(2) When the adjective ends with a consonant in the masculine, the adverb is formed by adding *ment* to the feminine—*Heureux, heureusement.*

(3) Adverbs are formed from adjectives ending in *ant* or *ent*, by changing *ant* into *amment*, and *ent* into *emment*.

Constant—constamment.

Éloquent—éloquemment.

Sing. Plural.

VI. Chef-lieu, chefs-lieux; county town.

Hôtel-Dieu, Hôtels-Dieu; a name given to the principal hospital of several towns in France.

Chef-d'œuvre, chefs-d'œuvre; masterpiece.

Coq-à-l'âne, coqs-à-l'âne; nonsensical story.

Contre-coup, contre-coups; counter-blow.

Passe-partout, passes-partout; pass key.