

APPENDIX 7: SPELLING: -ed / -er / -est FORMS

USUALLY word + **ed** work – worked
 word + **er** work – worker cold – colder
 word + **est** cold – coldest

BUT

a If word already ends with **e**, do not write it again.

manage – managed – manager late – later – latest
decide – decided – decider fine – finer - finest

b If word ends with consonant + **y** (Appendix 4), **y** → **i**

carry – carried – carrier happy – happier – happiest
worry – worried – worrier dirty – dirtier – dirtiest

but note that vowel + **y** is regular: play – played – player

c If word ends with one vowel + one consonant (Appendix 4), double the consonant.

big – bigger – biggest fit – fitted – fitter
thin – thinner – thinnest stop – stopped – stopper
hot – hotter – hottest permit - permitted

but do not double if the last part of the word does not have any stress (Appendix 4):

develop = developed - developer

and do not double if word ends with

two vowels + one consonant: green – greener - greenest
one vowel + two consonants: talk – talked – talker
one vowel + **x**: mix – mixed – mixer