

He is the politest/most polite of them.

A work from S CHAND & COMPANY LTD

83. The-Comparative-in er is not used when we compare two qualities in the same person or thing. If we wish to say that the courage of Rama is greater than the courage of Balu, we say

Page 27

Rama is braver than Balu.

But if we wish to say that the courage of Rama is greater than his prudence, we must say, Rama is more brave than prudent.

84. When two objects are compared with each other, the latter term of comparison must exclude the former; as,

Iron is more useful than any other metal.

If we say,

Iron is more useful than any metal,

that is the same thing as saying 'Iron is more useful than iron' since iron is itself a metal.

### ***Irregular Comparison***

85. The following Adjectives are compared irregularly, that is, their Comparative and Superlative are not formed from the Positive:-

#### **Positive -- Comparative -- Superlative**

Good, well -- better -- best

Bad, evil, ill -- worse -- worst

Little -- less, lesser -- least

Much -- more -- most (quantity)

Many -- more -- most (number)

Late -- later, latter -- latest, last

Old -- older, elder -- oldest, eldest

Far -- farther -- farthest

(Nigh) -- (nigher) -- (nighest), next

(Fore) -- (former) -- foremost, first

(Fore) -- further -- furthest

(In) -- inner -- inmost, innermost

(Up) -- upper -- upmost, uppermost

(Out) -- outer, (utter) -- utmost, uttermost

Note:- The forms nigh, nigher, nighest, fore and utter are outdated.

### **Exercise in Grammar 13**

Compare the following Adjectives:-

Black, excellent, ill, gloomy, mad, safe, bad, unjust, gay, able, dry, timid, ugly, true, severe, exact, agreeable, difficult, little, few, numerous, merry.