

# Tribulations in Learning Grammar

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**Abstract:** English is becoming the most popular language in today's world. Many people find it hard to learn because of some mishaps in grammar. The given article will explore the characteristics of grammar, the given article is about some difficulties in learning grammar and how they can be avoided.

**Keywords**— context learning, vocabulary, learning English, practicing, grammar, word grammar.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

I found a rather interesting definition of grammar. Grammar is “the structural foundation of our ability to express ourselves. The more we are aware of how it works, the more we can monitor the meaning and effectiveness of the way we and others use the language. It can foster precision, detect ambiguity and exploit the richness of expression. This can help anyone, not only language teachers, but all teachers of everything”.

## 2. Materials and methods

What struck me was the phrase: The more we are aware of how it works. I don't think we need to be aware of how it works. We just have to make it work. Once a language flows and is accurately expressed, we have learned its grammar.

## 3. Main part

Five year old kids are not even conscious of the word grammar, and yet they are able to string together full, correct sentences in their native tongue They have internalized it unconsciously.

### Do we even need to formally learn it?

There are many opinions within the language learning community on the part of teachers and learners regarding grammar.

Some people believe that a grammar-based approach is key to efficiently learning a language. They claim that although grammar study is necessary for understanding the structure of the language. They insist that without understanding grammar, a language would be a jumble of words difficult to decipher. Some go as far as to say that they first need to have a good grasp of grammar even before starting learning the language. I call this a purely analytical approach.

On the other hand, others believe exactly the opposite: that grammar books are an unnecessary obstacle that slow down the learning process. Grammar rules should be exclusively inferred by the language and not vice-versa. According to this vision, a student should start “attacking” the language as soon as possible. Massive exposure and deduction are key factors here. It is called a purely inductive approach.

A focus on grammar rules is one of the most popular English teaching methods in traditional academic settings, perhaps due to the focus on grammar in native language courses. Teaching English as a second language, according to this approach, should not stray from the model.

This approach can only work if the instructor speaks the first language of the students in addition to English, because much of it is based on the teacher's ability to translate. English grammar rules should be taught conceptually in the student's native language, with examples provided in simple English sentences that the teacher can translate back to the native tongue so that a solid parallel can be drawn. These grammar rules should be strictly enforced, and students should be allowed to practice proper structure and syntax through the use of examples and quizzes.

Also important to this method is vocabulary, as students need a large knowledge bank of English words in order to interpret and form their own English grammar examples. Grammar and vocabulary quizzes fuel this approach, and should be at the forefront of instruction. The English language is examined in terms of grammar rules. Get a firm grasp on this side of the English language

### English-Only Approach

The English only method is one of the most direct approaches to teaching the language. For this method, neither the teacher nor the student should speak their native tongue at all during instruction. All instruction should be done in English only.

Vocabulary should be taught first, as it is the easiest to grasp because it can be demonstrated with a visual aid. As the student builds vocabulary, the instructor can begin introducing abstract words and elements of the language, but without explaining or focusing on the actual grammatical structure. The complexities of the language will be learned inherently, with the student picking up on its patterns through practice and application only.

At the end of each class period, there can be an optional question and answer session where students are allowed to ask the teacher about that day's lesson. Here, clarifications

may be made and confusion may be cleared up, but again, this is entirely optional. Sometimes, the best way to learn the language through this method is to just tough it out and let it come naturally.

#### *Who is this best for?*

This method works best for situations where the instructor does not speak the native language of the students they're instructing. (Of course, this would make the optional question answer sessions an impossibility.) It is also an ideal method for situations where there is a diverse set of students who don't share the same native language, all trying to learn English. This way, the barriers and constraints brought in by an inability to communicate natively can be dismissed, and a stronger focus on the language at hand can be made.

Looking to teach a course with this method? [Check out this intermediate English language course](#) and make sure you're prepared to represent the language with fluency and accuracy.

#### **Translative Approach**

The translative approach is a bit like the grammatical approach, only with a broader focus on the English language's structure in comparison to the native language of the students. This approach must be taught by an instructor who speaks the same language as their students, and all the students must also share a fluency in the same language.

English will be taught as a subject like any other, with different elements of the language such as vocabulary, grammar, syntax, speaking, reading, and writing focused on every day. This method will make strong use of notecards, where students can write English vocabulary and grammar concepts on one side, and then translate the word or idea on the back in their native language.

Quizzes and exams should be given, first asking questions in the native language of the students, and eventually moving into English-only in the later duration of the course. Lecturing will be the primary method of instruction during the class, with student questions allowed and encouraged. Check out [this introduction to English grammar course](#) and make sure you're up to speed on the basics.

#### *Who is this best for?*

This method is best for students learning the English language because of an academic interest in it as a language, and not just an interest or need to know how to speak it.

#### **4. Conclusion**

Speaking, reading, and writing the language will be given equal priority, and grammar rules and concepts will not be avoided for a more "natural" approach. It will be taught academically, as any other subject, and is best for students who are interested in this kind of rigorous approach.

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