

**PROGRESSIVE EXERCISES IN
ENGLISH GRAMMAR, PART II,
CONTAINING THE PRINCIPLES OF
THE SYNTHESIS OR CONSTRUCTION
OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649323104

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Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

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CHARLES FOX & R. G. PARKER

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PROGRESSIVE EXERCISES
IN
ENGLISH GRAMMAR.
PART II.

CONTAINING THE PRINCIPLES OF THE
SYNTHESIS OR CONSTRUCTION
OF THE
ENGLISH LANGUAGE.

BY
R. G. PARKER, A. M.
PRINCIPAL OF THE FRANKLIN GRAMMAR SCHOOL, AUTHOR OF
"PROGRESSIVE EXERCISES IN ENGLISH COMPOSITION,"

AND
CHARLES FOX, A. M.
PRINCIPAL OF THE BOYLSTON GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

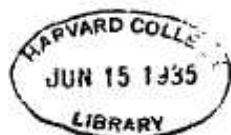
"Breve est iter per exempla."

Fourth Edition.

BOSTON:
PUBLISHED BY CROCKER & BREWSTER,
47 Washington Street.
NEW YORK: LEAVITT, LORD & CO.,
122 Broadway.

1839.

Educ T 758.37.339



Entered according to Act of Congress, in the year 1835,
By CROCKER & BREWSTER,
In the Clerk's Office of the District Court of Massachusetts.

From the Records of the School Committee.

CITY OF BOSTON, December 16, 1834.

VOTED, That Messrs. Parker and Fox's Progressive Exercises in English Grammar be introduced into all the Public Grammar Schools of this city, after the present date.

STEREOTYPED AT THE
BOSTON TYPE AND STEREOTYPE FOUNDRY.

PREFACE.

IN the former part of this Grammar, the principles of Analysis, or English Parsing, were unfolded, and the pupil was led, by progressive steps, to a knowledge of the parts of speech, with their various relations and dependencies. This volume contains the application of these principles in the Synthesis or Construction of English sentences. It is to be premised, that, in the arrangement of these principles, the authors have considered the usage of the best writers as their only standard of grammatical accuracy. For this reason, it will be seen in this work, that many expressions are condemned, which are sometimes used by popular writers, and are of frequent occurrence in colloquial intercourse. The propriety of this must be evident to all who consider that language aims at a higher object than the bare expression of animal wants. It has been asserted by a celebrated writer, that most of the disputes which have agitated the world, have arisen from a reciprocal misunderstanding of terms. How important, then, is a logical precision in the construction of sentences! In the decisions which the authors have made in relation to grammatical propriety, they have not ventured to

array their own authority against common usage ; but they have deduced certain rules from higher sources, from which there is no appeal ; and, having ascertained the principles upon which English Syntax is founded, they have endeavored to make their Synthesis conform to them.

Boston, August, 1835.

ENGLISH GRAMMAR.

PART II.

PRINCIPLES OF SYNTHESIS OR CONSTRUCTION.

THE ARTICLES.

1. THE article *a* is used before words beginning with a consonant, with *w* or *y*, or with the long sound of *u*.
2. The article *an* is used instead of *a*, before words beginning with a vowel, with silent *h*, and with *h* not silent, when the accent is on the second syllable.
3. The article *a* or *an* is joined to nouns of the singular number only.
4. The article *the* may be joined to nouns in the singular or plural number.
5. The articles must be omitted when the noun stands for all of its kind.

*The pupil may correct the errors in the following phrases.**

An hand; an heart; a end; a army; an horse; an ewe;
an bed; a apple; a hour; a adder; a honourable man; a
ingenious device; an high post; an houses; an pen; a ox;
a eel; a industrious boys; a aunt; a inches; a eye; an
watches; an unicorn; an university; a men; the women;
an humble post; a umpire; an useful tool; an honorable
situation; an yeoman; an yard; an wardrobe; an unit; an
euphony; an year; such an one; a heroic action; a his-

* In order to test the knowledge of the pupil, some phrases or sentences which need no correction are inserted in this, and many of the subsequent Exercises.

torical account; an useful implement; an virtuous woman; an humble cottager; a European; a Italian; a bushes; a upper rooms; an higher tree; an taller man; a abler man; such a one; to an historian; an handsome prospect; a habiliment. The gold is corrupting. The money is the root of all evil. Sea is green. Lion is bold animal. Law was given to the Moses; but the grace and the truth came by a Saviour of the man.

NOUNS.

6. The plural number of nouns is *generally* formed by adding *s* to the singular.

7. When the noun ends in *x*, *ch* soft, *sh*, *ss*, or *o*, the plural is formed by adding *es*.

8. Nouns ending in *io*, and *ch* sounded like *k*, and the words *junto*, *canto*, *tyro*, *grotto*, *portico*, *solo*, *quarto*, form the plural by adding *s* only.

9. Nouns ending with a single *f*, or *fe*, form the plural by changing *f* or *fe* into *ves*.

10. The words *dwarf*, *scarf*, *wharf*, *brief*, *chief*, *grief*, *kerchief*, *handkerchief*, *mischief*, *gulf*, *turf*, *surf*, *five*, *strife*, *proof*, *hoof*, *roof*, and *reproof*, have the regular plural by adding *s* only; and the word *staff* has *staves* in the plural.

11. Nouns ending with *y*, with a consonant before it, form the plural by changing the *y* into *ies*.

12. The plural of some nouns is formed in a very irregular manner; as, *child*, *children*; *foot*, *feet*; *ox*, *oxen*; *tooth*, *teeth*; *woman*, *women*; &c. (See Part I., p. 88, Nos. 21, 22, 23, 24 and 25.)

Tell the plural number of the following nouns.

Boy, girl, pen, table, tax, fish, ass, chair, king, ring, man, body, leaf, fox, field, ox, garden, fly, knife, city, fork, play, day, calf, lamp, wo, cherry, army, coach, child, loaf, hero, berry, peach, wolf, wharf, volcano, lash, thief, branch, hill, sister, duty, penny, foot, inch, queen, wife, dish, witch, buffalo, copy, brush, glass, cargo, sheaf, river, sky, miss, witness, thrush, wish, monarch, gelly, shelf, beauty, potato, dress, sex, study, loss, echo, relay, chimney, attorney, journey, valley, sheep, mouse, aid-de-camp, banditti, court-martial, father-in-law, animalculum, antithesis, ellipsis, arcanum,

automaton, axis, basis, crisis, criterion, datum, desideratum, diæresis, effluvium, erratum, focus, genus, genius, hypothesis, lamina, medium, monsieur, parenthesis, phenomenon, radius, stamen, stimulus, stratum, virtuoso, apparatus, means, species, series, pride, gold, sloth, wheat, ambition, fife, lay, foot, tooth.

Tell the singular of the following plural nouns.

Brothers, men, children, wives, reproofs, buffaloes, crises, criteria, hypotheses, chimneys, courts-martial, effluvia, desidrata, errata, messieurs, species, sheep, wheat, coaches, thrushes, animalcula, stamina, stimuli, boys, girls, virtuosi, apparatus, dishes, teeth. (*This exercise may be extended at the discretion of the teacher.*)

GENDER.

13. The gender of nouns is distinguished in three different ways;—First, by different words; Second, by a difference of termination; Third, by a noun, pronoun, or adjective, prefixed to the noun.

(*A list of the words, the gender of which is thus determined, may be found in Part I., p. 90.*)

Tell the feminine of the masculine nouns in the following exercise; and the masculine of those which are feminine.

Man, bachelor, host, man-servant, beau, abbot, baron, hart, drake, boy, conductor, deacon, father, emperor, ambassador, sister, doe, duck, countess, mother, friar, goose, roe, mare, husband, queen, lass, lady, master, spawner, wizard, nephew, ram, songstress, madam, dam, daughter, hind, uncle, stag, witch, abbess, bride, cateress, chantress, earl, czarina, empress, executor, goddess, governess, heiress, heroine, huntress, inheritrix, instructor, inheritor, Jewess, lioness, marchioness, landgravine, shepherdess, songster, sorcerer, sultana, testatrix, tigress, traitor, tutor, tyranness, victor, viscountess, votary, widow, she-bear, hen-sparrow, female child, man-servant, female descendants.

Correct the following errors.

Mary is a great beau. John is my niece. Charlotte was a bridegroom. Mrs. Quickly was the host at the inn. Mrs. Brown was his uncle. The lady Elizabeth was a prince. Napoleon was the heroine of his age. He is a