

**SYNTHESIS OF THE ENGLISH
SENTENCE, OR AN ELEMENTARY
GRAMMAR ON THE SYNTHETIC
METHOD. ENLARGED AND
IMPROVED**

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Synthesis of the English Sentence, or an Elementary Grammar on the Synthetic Method.
Enlarged and Improved by J. M. B. Sill

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OR AN
ELEMENTARY GRAMMAR
ON THE
SYNTHETIC METHOD.

ENLARGED AND IMPROVED.

BY J. M. B. SILL,

TEACHER OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE IN THE MICHIGAN STATE NORMAL SCHOOL.



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P R E F A C E .

THIS book, as its title-page shows, is designed as a grammar for beginners, on the synthetic plan. It contains a system of synthesis based upon the classification of sentences and general nomenclature introduced by Professor Welch in his excellent work on the Analysis of the English Sentence.

Many teachers, myself among their number, earnestly desiring to teach English grammar upon this plan, have looked in vain for some text-book which could be properly used in preparing the beginner for advanced analysis. Up to the present time, in the Michigan State Normal School, elementary instruction in grammar has been given without the aid of any book, and this work embodies the course of oral lessons given by the author in this department.

The system has been thoroughly tested, and has met with abundant success. It is now offered to the teachers of the West, at the frequently repeated request of many of their number.

In the following work we have attempted to try all things by one touchstone—UTILITY, in a broad and genuine sense. Precedents, however numerous and formidable, have not been allowed to prevail against its decisions. When no liability to mistake exists, no rule of syntax is given. Distinctions and divisions, no matter how time-honored, have been weighed in this balance, and cast aside, if found wanting; and it is the earnest desire of the writer that one gifted with a more discriminating eye and a bolder hand, may soon uproot from elementary grammar what of venerable absurdities yet remain.

MICHIGAN STATE NORMAL SCHOOL,
Ypsilanti, Oct. 23, 1906.

PREFACE TO THE REVISED EDITION.

I OFFER to my fellow teachers this revised edition of the *Synthesis*, hopeful that those heretofore acquainted with the work will find it more worthy of their confidence. Those who examine it will observe several changes which I am sure the test of the classroom will justify.

I offer sincere thanks to the many friends who have upheld this system of grammar through evil and good report, and trust they will now find this little book more useful and acceptable.

To teachers who use this work let me say, be sure you understand its spirit before attempting to give instruction from it. Do not urge very young pupils into the study of grammar—much is lost in this way. Never let your class pass from a lesson till it is thoroughly mastered. "Make haste slowly." The best elementary classes in the Normal School spend weeks upon the first ten lessons. If the examples and exercises in the lesson are too few, add more—by all means have enough.

Exercise your pupils frequently in concert.

Let the reviews be frequent and thorough. Remember that your class will catch your spirit, whether you are earnest or slothful.

Above all, study the structure of our noble language until you are charmed by it, as you surely will be if you persevere, and your pupils will share your enthusiasm, and astonish you with their progress.

J. M. B. SILL.



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