

**ADVANCED ENGLISH
GRAMMAR. FOR USE IN
SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649038169

Advanced English Grammar. For Use in Schools and Colleges by Thomas Morrison

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THOMAS MORRISON

**ADVANCED ENGLISH
GRAMMAR. FOR USE IN
SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES**

ADVANCED
ENGLISH GRAMMAR.

FOR USE IN

Schools and Colleges.

WITH NUMEROUS EXERCISES, SYSTEMATICALLY ARRANGED,
CONSISTING OF EXTRACTS FROM STANDARD AUTHORS.

BY

THOMAS MORRISON, M.A.,
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LONDON AND GLASGOW:
WILLIAM COLLINS, SONS, & COMPANY.
1878.

302. 2. 258

PREFACE.

In constructing this Text-Book, the Author has endeavoured to secure the following objects :—

1. Clearness and simplicity of definition. The importance of these things in any scientific text-book cannot be over-estimated, and in no subject are they more essential than in Grammar.

2. Fulness of information, combined with suitable brevity. The text-book is designed for use mainly in the Higher Classes of our Public and Private Schools, where the elements of Grammar may be supposed to have been acquired. Accordingly, fulness of information on all the essential points of English Grammar has been aimed at; while, at the same time, the brevity so necessary in every school-book has been kept stedily in view.

3. Exercises selected from classic authors. A large amount of any child's information is acquired in an incidental way. This is especially true as regards English Literature. The systematic study of this branch of education is scarcely possible in school. But this very fact renders it the more important that, in all text-books

treating of English, the exercises should be well chosen, so as to familiarise the scholar with choice specimens of classic English. Great pains have been taken in this connection, and the author believes that, in no similar text-book will there be found so many elegant extracts from standard English writers. Apart from its grammatical value, the text-book has, the author hopes, a special literary value which will commend it to teachers of youth.

T. M.

GLASGOW, August 1878.

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ENGLISH GRAMMAR.

PART I.—ORTHOGRAPHY.

1. Orthography (Greek, *right writing*) is that part of grammar which treats of letters and syllables.

THE ALPHABET.

2. The English Alphabet contains twenty-six letters.

3. The letters are divided into two great classes—**Vowels and Consonants.**

4. A **vowel** is a letter which can be fully sounded by itself by the simple passage of the air through the organs of speech. The vowels are *a, e, i, o, u.*

5. A **consonant** is a letter which cannot be fully sounded by itself, but always requires the presence of a vowel.

6. **Consonants** are divided into five classes—**Semi-vowels, Liquids, Mutes, Sibilants, and the Aspirate.**

7. The **semivowels** are *w* and *y*, and they are so called because they are sometimes used as vowels and sometimes as consonants. The general principle is that these letters are *consonants* when used at the beginning of a word or syllable, or when they are followed by a vowel; and

vowels when they occur at the end of a word or syllable, as—

W and *y* as consonants—worth, worship, unworthy, yew, yield.
W and *y* as vowels—low, new, spy, spying.

8. The liquids are *l, m, n, r*, and they are so called because they *run* easily into the sounds of other letters.

9. The mutes are *b, c, d, f, g, k, p, t, v*. These letters are called *mutes* or *dumb letters*, because it is impossible to sound them by themselves. We can subdivide the mutes (*a*) according to the organs of speech by which they are pronounced, or (*b*) according to the kind of sound they make when pronounced.

(a) If we have regard to the organ of speech by which they are pronounced, the mutes can be subdivided into **Labials**, or those formed by the *lips*; **Dentals**, or those formed by the *teeth*; and **Gutturals**, or those formed by the *throat*, as—

Labials,	<i>b, f, p, v.</i>
Dentals,	<i>d, t.</i>
Gutturals,	<i>k</i> and <i>c</i> when hard, <i>g.</i>

(b) If we examine the mutes in relation to the sound they make when pronounced, we find that certain of them can be pronounced only in a whisper, *e.g.*, *p, f, t*, etc., whilst others of them can be pronounced with a certain degree of loudness and clearness, *e.g.*, *b, v, d*, etc. Those of the first class are called **Sharp Mutes** or **Sharps**; those of the second class are called **Flat Mutes** or **Flats**.

The two classifications of the mutes can be exhibited at one view :—

	<i>Sharp,</i>	<i>Flat.</i>
Labials,	<i>p, f.</i>	<i>b, v.</i>
Dentals,	<i>t.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Gutturals,	<i>k</i> (<i>c</i> hard)	<i>g.</i>

Note.—It will be observed that every sharp has its corresponding flat. Those letters that are pronounced by the same organs of speech are called *cognate* letters. We have in English two *dental* sounds for which we have no corresponding letter. These are the sound of *th* in *this* and of *th* in *thine*. The sound of *c* is hard before the vowels *a, o, u*, as *cat, cot, cut*.