

ENGLISH GRAMMAR

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English grammar by Lillian G. Kimball

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**ENGLISH
GRAMMAR**

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"ELEMENTARY ENGLISH, BOOK ONE," AND

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PREFACE

THE purpose of this book is to set forth in a simple and practical manner the principles of modern English Grammar. The aim has been not only to give the pupils an insight into the structure of the English sentence, but also to provide them with exercises helpful to the formation of good habits of speech.

It is a matter of common knowledge among teachers of grammar that a mere understanding of the rules of syntax does not insure the avoidance of errors and the use of correct forms. The use of language by young persons is instinctive and spontaneous rather than reflective, hence the most effective way for them to secure correctness of speech is through imitation and practice. Recognizing this fundamental fact in language teaching, the author has provided many exercises both for the learning of correct forms and for practice in their use. These the teacher is expected to supplement by constant criticism, example, and stimulus.

After the pupil has been led to appreciate and strive for correctness of speech, he naturally wishes to understand why a certain form is correct or incorrect, to have a test for his own speech and a standard by which to judge the speech of others. Only by such an understanding does he gain a mastery of the form of a language so that he can use it with ease, freedom, and certainty. To promote such a mastery of English, the author has made each construction perfectly clear, and has led the pupil through accurate reasoning to conclusions which are strengthened and established by their application to many illustrative sentences chosen from standard literature.

The selection and the arrangement of subject matter have been carefully considered in the light of experience in the classroom. The arrangement is at the same time pedagogical and logical. Each point is taken up where it is called for by the preceding lesson and where it will be of greatest use in making clear what follows. Technical points that have little or no practical value have been omitted, but whatever is of benefit in helping the pupil to use or to interpret the English language has been included.

Thanks are due to many teachers for helpful criticisms of the manuscript of this book.

CONTENTS

LESSON	PAGE
✓ I. Declarative Sentences. Subject and Predicate	9
II. Simple Subject. Nouns	11
III. Classification of Nouns	13
IV. Verbs	15
V. Pronouns	18
✓ VI. Compound Subject and Compound Predicate	19
VII. Transposed Subject and Predicate	22
✓ VIII. Interrogative Sentences	23
IX. Adjectives	25
X. Adverbs	28
XI. Phrases. Analysis of Sentences	31
XII. Prepositions	34
XIII. Term of Address. Exclamatory Noun.	39
✓ XIV. Imperative Sentences	41
XV. Interjections	43
✓ XVI. Exclamatory Sentences	44
XVII. Conjunctions	46
XVIII. Clauses. Simple Sentences	48
XIX. Compound Sentences	50
XX. Dependent Clauses. Complex Sentences	52
XXI. Review: Classification of Sentences	55
XXII. Review: Parts of Speech	57
XXIII. Transitive Verbs. Object of Verb	60
XXIV. Intransitive Verbs asserting Action	64

LESSON		PAGE
XXV.	Intransitive Verbs asserting Being. Nouns as Subjective Complements	66
XXVI.	Adjectives as Subjective Complements	69
XXVII.	Review of Verbs	72
XXVIII.	Nouns: Number	74
XXIX.	Nouns: Gender	77
XXX.	Possessive Nouns	80
XXXI.	Nouns: Case	83
XXXII.	Nouns: The Appositive	85
XXXIII.	Appositive Adjectives	88
XXXIV.	Indirect Object	89
XXXV.	Adverbial Noun Phrases	91
XXXVI.	Adverbial Noun Phrases	92
XXXVII.	Objective Complement	94
XXXVIII.	Parsing of Nouns	96
XXXIX.	Personal Pronouns	98
XL.	Uses of Personal Pronouns	100
XLI.	Uses of Possessive Personal Pronouns	103
XLII.	Compound Personal Pronouns	106
XLIII.	Interrogative Pronouns	108
XLIV.	Descriptive Adjectives	110
XLV.	Limiting Adjectives	113
XLVI.	Comparison of Adjectives	116
XLVII.	Review of Adjectives	120
XLVIII.	Adjective Pronouns	121
XLIX.	Verbs: Tense	123
L.	The Indicative Mode	127
LI.	The Interrogative Form of the Indicative Mode	129
LII.	The Subjunctive Mode	131
LIII.	The Imperative Mode	134
LIV.	Principal Parts of Verbs. Regular and Irregular Verbs	135

CONTENTS

7

LESSON	PAGE
LV. Voice	140
LVI. The Passive Voice	144
LVII. The Progressive Conjugation	148
LVIII. The Emphatic Conjugation	149
LIX. Parsing of Verbs	150
LX. The Auxiliary Verbs <i>Shall</i> and <i>Will</i>	151
LXI. Defective Verbs. Verb Phrases	154
LXII. Direct and Indirect Discourse	162
LXIII. Agreement of Verb and Subject. Collective Nouns	165
LXIV. Review of Verbs	168
LXV. Classification of Adverbs. Simple Adverbs	169
LXVI. Conjunctive Adverbs	171
LXVII. Summary of Adverbs	173
LXVIII. Coördinate Conjunctions	174
LXIX. Subordinate Conjunctions	176
LXX. Adverbial Clauses of Time, Place, and Manner	180
LXXI. Adverbial Clauses of Cause, Purpose, and Result	183
LXXII. Adverbial Clauses of Condition and Concession	186
LXXIII. Adverbial Clauses of Comparison	188
LXXIV. Analysis of Sentences	191
LXXV. Adjective Clauses	193
LXXVI. Relative Pronouns	196
LXXVII. Noun Clauses	200
LXXVIII. Introductory Words of Noun Clauses	203
LXXIX. Review of Clauses	206
LXXX. Review of Pronouns	207
LXXXI. Infinitives	209
LXXXII. Infinitives as Subjects or Complements	212
LXXXIII. Infinitives as Modifiers of Nouns	215
LXXXIV. Infinitives as Parts of "Double Objects." As <div style="padding-left: 40px;">Modifiers of Verbs</div>	216
LXXXV. Other Uses of Infinitives	220

LESSON		PAGE
LXXXVI.	Summary of Infinitives	224
LXXXVII.	Analysis of Sentences containing Infinitive Phrases	225
LXXXVIII.	Participles	228
LXXXIX.	Participles modifying Nouns	231
XC.	Participial Phrases in the Predicate	234
XCL.	Absolute Participial Phrases	237
XCI.	Agreement of Participles. Other Words in <i>-ing</i>	239
XCII.	Summary of Participles	243
XCIV.	Analysis of Sentences	244
XCV.	Anticipative Subject	247
XCVI.	Elliptical Sentences	249
XCVII.	Review of Analysis	252
General Review	257
Index	265