

**AN ELEMENTARY  
GRAMMAR OF THE  
ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649342570

An elementary grammar of the English language by E. D. Hill

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.  
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

[www.triestepublishing.com](http://www.triestepublishing.com)

**E. D. HILL**

**AN ELEMENTARY  
GRAMMAR OF THE  
ENGLISH LANGUAGE**



AN  
ELEMENTARY GRAMMAR

OF THE

*English Language*

BY E. D. HILL.



LONDON: SIMPKIN, MARSHALL, & Co.

CHEL TENHAM:

T. K. EATON, PROMENADE.

1864.

## PREFACE.

THIS little book was written solely for the use of my own pupils, in despair of finding an English Grammar which would exactly supply their wants.

As it is intended for boys who are preparing for the public schools, I have, in compiling it, tried to keep three objects in view:—First, that it should not interfere with, but should rather facilitate the study of Latin and Greek: second, that it should be short: third, that it should be simple.

It seems to me that, although English may not be the best medium for conveying grammatical instruction, yet that, for many years of a child's life, it is the readiest and the most intelligible; and that, therefore, as the great aim of a teacher should be to cultivate the *intelligence* of his pupils, it is well to appeal as early as possible to the reason and understanding, by teaching the general principles of grammar through the mother tongue, which is to a child the only medium of thought.

I have tried to make the book as short as possible, because the time that can be devoted to the study of English Grammar

by boys who are to learn several other languages is necessarily short, and they cannot therefore learn more than the barest outline.

I have tried to make it simple, because it is intended to be put into the hands of little children, not only to be committed to memory, but to be *understood*.

I have adopted a tabular form whenever it seemed to me possible, because an appeal to the eye is always the readiest and surest method of instruction.

But my little book is not intended to supply the place of intelligence in the teacher, and I have therefore avoided much explanation, and have given few examples, thinking the lessons likely to be more lively and interesting, when the teacher is called upon to furnish the one, and the pupil the other. The book is meant simply to be a text-book in the hands of the pupils.

E. D. H.

CHELTEMHAM, JANUARY, 1864.

# PART I.—ACCIDENCE.

---

## CHAPTER I.

### INTRODUCTORY.

**1 Grammar is the science of language.**

We express our thoughts by means of sentences.

**Sentences are composed of words.**

**Words are composed of letters.**

**2 There are twenty-six letters in the English language, viz., a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i, j, k, l, m, n, o, p, q, r, s, t, u, v, w, x, y, z.**

**3 Five of the letters are vowels; a, e, i, o, u.**

**4 The letters w and y are sometimes vowels and sometimes consonants; they are often called semi-vowels.**



5 The other letters are all consonants except *h*.

6 The consonants are subdivided into liquids and mutes.

7. The liquids are *l, m, n, r*.

8 Ten of the mutes may be classified in the following manner :—

<i>Sharp.</i>	related to	<i>Flat.</i>
p		b
t	"	d
f	"	v
k	"	*g hard
s	"	z

Th has two sounds, one sharp, as in **THINK**; the other flat, as in **THIS**.

9 Of the remaining five letters, *c* is redundant, as *c* soft = *s*, *c* hard = *k*; *h* is merely an aspirate, and the others are compound sounds; *j* = *dzh*; *q* = *kw*; *x* = *ks*.

10 A **syllable** consists of one or more letters pronounced with one effort of the voice. Every syllable must contain at least one vowel.

11 A **diphthong** is the blending of *two* vowels into *one* sound as *ou* in **LOUD**.

\* *g* soft = *j*.

## CHAPTER II.

## PARTS OF SPEECH.

1 There are eight different kinds of words, called **Parts of Speech**.

2 The parts of Speech are **Nouns or Substantives, Adjectives, Pronouns, Verbs, Adverbs, Prepositions, Conjunctions, Interjections**.

3 **A Noun** is the **NAME** of a person, place, or thing.

4 **An Adjective** is a word **ADDED** to a Noun, and generally expresses quality.

The words **A** or **AN** and **THE**, are so frequently attached to nouns that they are called **Articles**, (Latin, *articulus*, a little limb,) but they may be classed as adjectives.

5 **A Pronoun** is a word used **INSTEAD OF** a Noun.

6 **A Verb** is a word which expresses being, doing, or suffering.

7 **An Adverb** is a word used to qualify or modify a Verb, an Adjective, or another Adverb.

8 **A Preposition** is a word **PUT BEFORE** a Noun to show its relation to some other word in the sentence.

9 **A Conjunction** is a word which JOINS words or sentences together.

10 **An Interjection** is an exclamation, THROWN IN AMONG the other words in a sentence.

---

Four of the Parts of Speech, namely, Nouns, Adjectives, Pronouns, and Verbs, are liable to changes in their endings.

These changes are called **Inflections**.

---

### CHAPTER III.

#### NOUNS.

1 Nouns are of two kinds, **Proper** and **Common**.

2 **A Proper Noun** is a name PROPER to one individual of a species, as **GEORGE**.

3 **A Common Noun** is a name COMMON to the whole species, as **BOY**.

4 There is also a class of Nouns called **Abstract Nouns**. These are the names of ideas existing only in the mind and TAKEN APART from any form. Such are **HUMILITY, JOY, HAPPINESS, &c.**