

THE IMPORTANCE OF LEARNING ENGLISH GRAMMAR

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Abstract: *English plays a pivotal role in the advancement of educational systems worldwide. Grammar constitutes a fundamental aspect of English language acquisition, as effective language use relies on a solid grammatical foundation. Research indicates that students at various educational stages encounter significant challenges in learning English grammar. These difficulties are largely attributed to outdated teaching methods, an inadequate curriculum, and students' lack of motivation or psychological engagement.*

Keywords: *English grammar, structure, complexity, rules, practise, precision, Azar.*

English grammar is the foundation of effective communication, guiding how we express thoughts and understand one another. Mastering grammar is crucial for achieving clarity in both spoken and written English, enhancing confidence for students, professionals, and language enthusiasts alike. Learning English grammar can feel like navigating a maze of rules and exceptions. From mastering tenses to sentence structures, many learners face challenges that impede their progress, often due to differences in native languages and the abstract nature of grammar. However, overcoming these obstacles is vital for achieving fluency. In addition, there are common difficulties in learning English grammar and this research offers practical solutions to facilitate a smoother learning experience. The English language is a crucial instrument for education, communication, and professional advancement, particularly for secondary school students. It is essential for knowledge acquisition and dissemination, as language enables individuals to engage with their surroundings, acquire experiential learning, and facilitate cognitive development. In this regard, English holds particular significance as a mandatory subject in numerous educational systems. Consequently, educators must possess a robust command of English proficiency and grammar to effectively convey content and support student learning. In terms of the centrality of English in global education, noting its status as a primary language in nations such as the United States, the United Kingdom, and Australia. Additionally, in many other countries, English serves as the primary medium of instruction in scientific and academic disciplines, highlighting its worldwide importance. English is regarded as a universal language that promotes intercultural understanding, collaboration, and cooperation across diverse cultural, religious, and ethnic backgrounds. Its widespread use has been accelerated by advancements in technology and global communication, positioning it as the "language of knowledge, science, and culture." Scholars such as Putra and Nishanthi assert that English proficiency is increasingly a requisite in international institutions and global job markets, making it a critical skill for students aspiring to excel in various academic and professional fields. Beyond science and technology, English also plays a prominent role in sectors such as economics and e-commerce, serving as the

primary language for academic research, higher education, and professional advancement worldwide. English is not only foundational for academic and professional success but is also integral to global connectivity. Furthermore, it discusses the significance of English grammar in understanding sentence structures, enabling students to recognize parts of speech such as verbs, adjectives, and adverbs, which are essential for constructing meaningful sentences. Azar (2001) supports this by asserting that grammar enhances students' reading and writing competencies, which are crucial for mastering English. Without a solid grasp of grammar, students cannot use the language accurately. In terms of the challenges students face in learning English, noting that while educational institutions may provide comprehensive linguistic and grammatical content, they often fail to adopt contemporary pedagogical methods or integrate current language acquisition theories. Moreover, there is a lack of practical language skills development, as many educational programs do not involve partnerships with global or regional language training centers that could otherwise enhance English teaching methods. The importance of selecting effective teaching strategies to promote language learning is underscored. Ahmad et al. (2011) emphasize that practice is an essential component of language learning, as it allows students to engage with English actively, build confidence, and overcome speaking apprehensions. However, Gass and Selinker (2001) note that many pedagogical approaches emphasize theoretical learning without encouraging students to apply or practice their language skills, which may hinder their fluency and self-assurance in real-world interactions with native speakers. In terms of the necessity of comprehensive grammar instruction, the overcoming of psychological and administrative barriers, and the adoption of practical, student-centered teaching approaches to ensure effective language learning outcomes. Without these elements, students may struggle to achieve fluency and confidence in English, despite their efforts to learn the language.

Lodges et al. (2018) argue that challenges are often an inevitable yet essential aspect of the learning process. The difficulties encountered by students in learning English arise not only from instructional practices but also from environmental factors. Many English learners face particular difficulties with grammar. This component of language learning requires learners to retain and correctly apply numerous rules involving parts of speech such as verbs, nouns, pronouns, and adjectives. Petra (2015) notes that some students experience anxiety about speaking English due to concerns over grammatical accuracy, which can hinder fluency. Anceta and Simagala (2017) further explain that English grammar presents unique challenges due to its syntactical differences from other languages, such as Indonesian. There are several strategies that learners can adopt to address difficulties in English pronunciation, vocabulary, and grammar. Extensive reading, for instance, can be a beneficial approach for overcoming grammar challenges. Reading English-language articles and journals allows students to reinforce their grammatical understanding through exposure to various sentence structures and contexts (Lee et al., 2015). Suryanto and Sari (2021) suggest that reading books is an effective method for grammar acquisition, while Natasya (2019) highlights additional strategies, including

seeking assistance from peers and lecturers, consulting other journals, and utilizing online grammar resources. Engaging with journals, peers, and instructors can be valuable for addressing grammar-related challenges. Social media also offers opportunities for learners to enhance their oral skills, grammar, and vocabulary. Through social platforms, learners can access a wide range of language input relevant to English acquisition (Suryanto & Sari, 2021). Moreover, learners can utilize online resources such as Google, which provides instant access to grammar materials, streamlining the learning process (Suryanto & Sari, 2021). Self-directed practice is another productive approach for grammar learning; by completing exercises and utilizing grammar guides, students can actively reinforce their knowledge and improve their grammatical proficiency.

Although English is widely recognized as the language of modernity, progress, and global economy, students still face significant challenges in learning it, particularly with respect to grammar. Many students struggle with weaknesses in grammatical, semantic, and pragmatic aspects, which are evident in both their spoken and written English. Research indicates that to effectively address these difficulties, a range of strategies should be adopted for teaching English grammar to secondary students. These strategies include providing specialized training for English teachers on using contemporary teaching methods and tools, encouraging students to focus on practical grammar exercises rather than theoretical ones, and fostering students' self-confidence and motivation to improve their grammar skills and enhance their engagement with the learning process.

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