

## Chapter 1 : Grammar - Basic English Grammar lessons

*English grammar is not always easy to understand, but by using this guide you should be able to remind yourself of the rules of English usage and speak or write English with confidence. Nouns* The words *cat, Jack, rock, Africa, & it* are nouns.

Messenger My grammar checker and I are on a break. Due to irreconcilable differences, we are no longer on speaking terms. Take it from me, I am a linguist. This is just one of many challenging cases where grammar is slippery and hard to pin down. To make matters worse, it appears that the grammar we use while speaking is slightly different to the grammar we use while writing. Speech and writing seem similar enough – so much so that for centuries, people linguists included were blind to the differences. That makes it the verb form of choice when followed by singular entities. It works for standard, written language, formal academic writing, and legal documents. But in speech, things are very different. It can simply be about the timing of the event described. With past events, the singular form is even more acceptable. Its history can be traced at least as far back as the second generation of the Ulster family of Irish emigrants. Editors, language commissions and prescriptivists aside, everyday New Zealand speech has a life of its own, governed not so much by style guides and grammar rules, but by living and breathing individuals. It should be no surprise that spoken language is different to written language. The most spoken-like form of speech conversation is very unlike the most written-like version of language academic or other formal or technical writing for good reason. Speech and writing In conversation, there is no time for planning. Expressions come out more or less off the cuff depending on the individual, with no ability to edit, and with immediate need for processing. We hear a chunk of language and at the same time as parsing it, we are already putting together a response to it – in real time. This speed has consequences for the kind of language we use and hear. When speaking, we rely on recycled expressions, formulae we use over and over again, and less complex structures. For example, we are happy enough writing and reading a sentence like: That the human brain can use language is amazing. But in speech, we prefer: It is amazing that the human brain can use language. Both are grammatical, yet one is simpler and quicker for the brain to decode. And sometimes, in speech we use grammatical crutches to help the brain get the message quicker. Even linguistics professors use these latter expressions no matter how much they might deny it. This allows room in speech for more creativity and more language play, and with it, faster change. Speech is known to evolve faster than writing, even though writing will eventually catch up at least for some changes.

**Chapter 2 : Grammar Checker - Free Online sentence & spell check tool**

*The Cambridge Grammar of the English Language is the first comprehensive descriptive grammar of English to appear for over fifteen years, a period which has seen immense developments in linguistic theory at all levels.*

**Definite article**[ edit ] The definite article is used to refer to a particular member of a group or class. It may be something that the speaker has already mentioned or it may be something uniquely specified. There is one definite article in English, for both singular and plural nouns: The children know the fastest way home. The sentence above refers to specific children and a specific way home; it contrasts with the much more general observation that: Children know the fastest ways home. The latter sentence refers to children in general and their specific ways home. Likewise, Give me the book. The definite article can also be used in English to indicate a specific class among other classes: The cabbage white butterfly lays its eggs on members of the Brassica genus. However, recent developments show that definite articles are morphological elements linked to certain noun types due to lexicalization. Under this point of view, definiteness does not play a role in the selection of a definite article more than the lexical entry attached to the article. It may be something that the speaker is mentioning for the first time, or the speaker may be making a general statement about any such thing. The form an is used before words that begin with a vowel sound even if spelled with an initial consonant, as in an hour , and a before words that begin with a consonant sound even if spelled with a vowel, as in a European. She had a house so large that an elephant would get lost without a map. Before some words beginning with a pronounced not silent h in an unstressed first syllable, such as historic al , hallucination, hilarious, horrendous, and horrific, some especially older British writers prefer to use an over a an historical event, etc. The correct usage in respect of the term "hereditary peer" was the subject of an amendment debated in the UK Parliament. Thus Dame una manzana "Give me an apple" but "Dame unas manzanas" "Give me some apples". The indefiniteness of some or unos can sometimes be semiquantitatively narrowed, as in "There are some apples there, but not many. Proper article[ edit ] A proper article indicates that its noun is proper , and refers to a unique entity. It may be the name of a person, the name of a place, the name of a planet, etc. The Maori language has the proper article a, which is used for personal nouns; so, "a Pita" means "Peter". In Maori, when the personal nouns have the definite or indefinite article as an important part of it, both articles are present; for example, the phrase "a Te Rauparaha", which contains both the proper article a and the definite article Te refers to the person name Te Rauparaha. The definite article is sometimes also used with proper names , which are already specified by definition there is just one of them. In these cases, the definite article may be considered superfluous. Its presence can be accounted for by the assumption that they are shorthand for a longer phrase in which the name is a specifier, i. Where the nouns in such longer phrases cannot be omitted, the definite article is universally kept: This distinction can sometimes become a political matter: Similar shifts in usage have occurred in the names of Sudan and both Congo Brazzaville and Congo Kinshasa ; a move in the other direction occurred with The Gambia. In certain languages, such as French and Italian, definite articles are used with all or most names of countries: If a name [has] a definite article, e. Burchfield [11] Some languages also use definite articles with personal names. For example, such use is standard in Portuguese a Maria, literally: It also occurs colloquially in Spanish , German , French , Italian and other languages. In Hungary it is considered to be a Germanism. Rarely, this usage can appear in English. Partitive articles are a class of determiner ; they are used in French and Italian in addition to definite and indefinite articles. In Finnish and Estonian , the partitive is indicated by inflection. For more information, see the article on the French partitive article. Haida has a partitive article suffixed -gyaa referring to "part of something or On the other hand, some consider such a word to be a simple determiner rather than an article. In English, this function is fulfilled by no, which can appear before a singular or plural noun: No man has been on this island. No dogs are allowed here. No one is in the room. Zero article in English The zero article is the absence of an article. In languages having a definite article, the lack of an article specifically indicates that the noun is indefinite. Linguists interested in X-bar theory causally link zero articles to nouns lacking a determiner. Visitors end up walking in mud. Variation among languages[ edit ] Articles in languages in and

around Europe indefinite and definite articles indefinite and suffixed definite articles only suffixed definite articles no articles Note that although the Saami languages spoken in northern parts of Norway and Sweden lack articles, Norwegian and Swedish are the majority languages in this area. Note also that although the Irish, Scottish Gaelic and Welsh languages lack indefinite articles they too are minority languages in Ireland, Scotland and southern Wales, respectively, with English being the main spoken language. Russian, Yoruba, and the Bantu languages. In some languages that do have articles, like for example some North Caucasian languages, the use of articles is optional but in others like English and German it is mandatory in all cases. Linguists believe the common ancestor of the Indo-European languages, Proto-Indo-European, did not have articles. Most of the languages in this family do not have definite or indefinite articles: Although Classical Greek had a definite article which has survived into Modern Greek and which bears strong functional resemblance to the German definite article, which it is related to, the earlier Homeric Greek used this article largely as a pronoun or demonstrative, whereas the earliest known form of Greek known as Mycenaean Greek did not have any articles. Articles developed independently in several language families. Not all languages have both definite and indefinite articles, and some languages have different types of definite and indefinite articles to distinguish finer shades of meaning: In many languages, the form of the article may vary according to the gender, number, or case of its noun. In some languages the article may be the only indication of the case. Many languages do not use articles at all, and may use other ways of indicating old versus new information, such as topic-comment constructions. The articles used in some languages Language.

**Chapter 3 : The Internet Grammar of English**

*English grammar is the way in which meanings are encoded into wordings in the English calendar. The science.com includes the structure of words, phrases, clauses, and sentences, right up to the structure of whole texts.*

The third-person singular forms are differentiated according to the sex of the referent. For example, she is used to refer to a female person, sometimes a female animal, and sometimes an object to which female characteristics are attributed, such as a ship or a country. A male person, and sometimes a male animal, is referred to using he. In other cases it can be used. See Gender in English. The word it can also be used as a dummy subject, in sentences like It is going to be sunny this afternoon. The third-person plural forms such as they are sometimes used with singular reference, as a gender-neutral pronoun, as in each employee should ensure they tidy their desk. Despite its long history, this usage is sometimes considered ungrammatical. The possessive determiners such as my are used as determiners together with nouns, as in my old man, some of his friends. The second possessive forms like mine are used when they do not qualify a noun: Note also the construction a friend of mine meaning "someone who is my friend". See English possessive for more details.

**Demonstrative and interrogative[ edit ]** The demonstrative pronouns of English are this plural these, and that plural those, as in these are good, I like that. Note that all four words can also be used as determiners followed by a noun, as in those cars. The interrogative pronouns are who, what, and which all of them can take the suffix -ever for emphasis. The pronoun who refers to a person or people; it has an oblique form whom though in informal contexts this is usually replaced by who, and a possessive form pronoun or determiner whose. The pronoun what refers to things or abstracts. The word which is used to ask about alternatives from what is seen as a closed set: It can also be an interrogative determiner: Which, who, and what can be either singular or plural, although who and what often take a singular verb regardless of any supposed number. For more information see who. All the interrogative pronouns can also be used as relative pronouns; see below for more details. The main relative pronouns in English are who with its derived forms whom and whose, which, and that. For persons, who is used the man who saw me was tall. The oblique case form of who is whom, as in the man whom I saw was tall, although in informal registers who is commonly used in place of whom. The possessive form of who is whose the man whose car is missing The word that as a relative pronoun is normally found only in restrictive relative clauses unlike which and who, which can be used in both restrictive and unrestrictive clauses. It can refer to either persons or things, and cannot follow a preposition. For example, one can say the song that [or which] I listened to yesterday, but the song to which [not to that] I listened yesterday. The relative pronoun that is usually pronounced with a reduced vowel schwa, and hence differently from the demonstrative that see Weak and strong forms in English. If that is not the subject of the relative clause, it can be omitted the song I listened to yesterday. The word what can be used to form a free relative clause "one that has no antecedent and that serves as a complete noun phrase in itself, as in I like what he likes. The words whatever and whichever can be used similarly, in the role of either pronouns whatever he likes or determiners whatever book he likes. When referring to persons, who ever and whom ever can be used in a similar way but not as determiners. The "logical subject" of the verb then appears as a complement after the verb. This use of there occurs most commonly with forms of the verb be in existential clauses, to refer to the presence or existence of something. There is a heaven; There are two cups on the table; There have been a lot of problems lately. It can also be used with other verbs: There exist two major variants; There occurred a very strange incident. The dummy subject takes the number singular or plural of the logical subject complement, hence it takes a plural verb if the complement is plural. It can also appear without a corresponding logical subject, in short sentences and question tags: The word there in such sentences has sometimes been analyzed as an adverb, or as a dummy predicate, rather than as a pronoun. Other[ edit ]

Other pronouns in English are often identical in form to determiners especially quantifiers, such as many, a little, etc. Sometimes, the pronoun form is different, as with none corresponding to the determiner no, nothing, everyone, somebody, etc. Many examples are listed as indefinite pronouns. Most verbs have three or four inflected forms in addition to the base form: Regular verbs have identical past tense and past participle

forms in -ed, but there are or so irregular English verbs with different forms see list. The verb be has the largest number of irregular forms am, is, are in the present tense, was, were in the past tense, been for the past participle. Most of what are often referred to as verb tenses or sometimes aspects in English are formed using auxiliary verbs. The auxiliaries shall and should sometimes replace will and would in the first person. For the uses of these various verb forms, see English verbs and English clause syntax. The basic form of the verb be, write, play is used as the infinitive , although there is also a "to-infinitive" to be, to write, to play used in many syntactical constructions. There are also infinitives corresponding to other aspects: A form identical to the infinitive can be used as a present subjunctive in certain contexts: It is important that he follow them or There is also a past subjunctive distinct from the simple past only in the possible use of were instead of was , used in some conditional sentences and similar: For details see English subjunctive. The passive voice is formed using the verb be in the appropriate tense or form with the past participle of the verb in question: The performer of the action may be introduced in a prepositional phrase with by as in they were killed by the invaders. The English modal verbs consist of the core modals can, could, may, might, must, shall, should, will, would, as well as ought to , had better, and in some uses dare and need. The modals are used with the basic infinitive form of a verb I can swim, he may be killed, we dare not move, need they go? The copula be, along with the modal verbs and the other auxiliaries , form a distinct class, sometimes called " special verbs " or simply "auxiliaries". Apart from those already mentioned, this class may also include used to although the forms did he use to? It also includes the auxiliary do does, did ; this is used with the basic infinitive of other verbs those not belonging to the "special verbs" class to make their question and negation forms, as well as emphatic forms do I like you? For more details of this, see do-support. For detail see English auxiliaries and contractions. Phrases[ edit ] A verb together with its dependents, excluding its subject , may be identified as a verb phrase although this concept is not acknowledged in all theories of grammar [20]. A verb phrase headed by a finite verb may also be called a predicate. The dependents may be objects , complements, and modifiers adverbs or adverbial phrases. In English, objects and complements nearly always come after the verb; a direct object precedes other complements such as prepositional phrases, but if there is an indirect object as well, expressed without a preposition, then that precedes the direct object: Certain verb&quot;modifier combinations, particularly when they have independent meaning such as take on and get up , are known as " phrasal verbs ". For details of possible patterns, see English clause syntax. See the Non-finite clauses section of that article for verb phrases headed by non-finite verb forms, such as infinitives and participles. Adjectives[ edit ] English adjectives , as with other word classes, cannot in general be identified as such by their form, [21] although many of them are formed from nouns or other words by the addition of a suffix, such as -al habitual , -ful blissful , -ic atomic , -ish impish, youngish , -ous hazardous , etc. Adjectives may be used attributively , as part of a noun phrase nearly always preceding the noun they modify; for exceptions see postpositive adjective , as in the big house, or predicatively , as in the house is big. Certain adjectives are restricted to one or other use; for example, drunken is attributive a drunken sailor , while drunk is usually predicative the sailor was drunk. Comparison[ edit ] Many adjectives have comparative and superlative forms in -er and -est, [22] such as faster and fastest from the positive form fast. Spelling rules which maintain pronunciation apply to suffixing adjectives just as they do for similar treatment of regular past tense formation ; these cover consonant doubling as in bigger and biggest, from big and the change of y to i after consonants as in happier and happiest, from happy. The adjectives good and bad have the irregular forms better, best and worse, worst; also far becomes farther, farthest or further, furthest. The adjective old for which the regular older and oldest are usual also has the irregular forms elder and eldest, these generally being restricted to use in comparing siblings and in certain independent uses. For the comparison of adverbs, see Adverbs below. Many adjectives, however, particularly those that are longer and less common, do not have inflected comparative and superlative forms. Instead, they can be qualified with more and most, as in beautiful, more beautiful, most beautiful this construction is also sometimes used even for adjectives for which inflected forms do exist. Certain adjectives are classed as ungradable. Consequently, comparative and superlative forms of such adjectives are not normally used, except in a figurative, humorous or imprecise context. Similarly, such adjectives are not normally qualified with modifiers of degree such as very and fairly, although with some of

them it is idiomatic to use adverbs such as completely. Another type of adjectives sometimes considered ungradable is those that represent an extreme degree of some property, such as delicious and terrified. Phrases[ edit ] An adjective phrase is a group of words that plays the role of an adjective in a sentence. It usually has a single adjective as its head , to which modifiers and complements may be added. Some can also be preceded by a noun or quantitative phrase, as in fat-free, two-metre-long. Complements following the adjective may include: An adjective phrase may include both modifiers before the adjective and a complement after it, as in very difficult to put away. Adjective phrases containing complements after the adjective cannot normally be used as attributive adjectives before a noun. Sometimes they are used attributively after the noun , as in a woman proud of being a midwife where they may be converted into relative clauses: Exceptions include very brief and often established phrases such as easy-to-use. Certain complements can be moved to after the noun, leaving the adjective before the noun, as in a better man than you, a hard nut to crack. Certain attributive adjective phrases are formed from other parts of speech, without any adjective as their head, as in a two-bedroom house, a no-jeans policy. Adverbs[ edit ] Adverbs perform a wide range of functions. They typically modify verbs or verb phrases , adjectives or adjectival phrases , or other adverbs or adverbial phrases.

**Chapter 4 : An Introduction to the Grammar of English - Elly van Gelderen - Google Books**

*Bonjour À tous, Je cherche À traduire un titre d'article qui est Do dans la grammaire de l'anglais. Puis je le traduire par Do in the grammar of English ou dois-je privilégier Do in the English grammar qui me semble moins fidèle au sens original?*

There are hundreds of grammar rules but the basics refer to sentence structure and parts of speech, which are noun, pronoun, verb, adjective, adverb, preposition and conjunction. Basic English Grammar Rules Some of the most basic and important English grammar rules relate directly to sentence structure. These rules specify that: A singular subject needs a singular predicate. A sentence needs to express a complete thought. Another term for a sentence is an independent clause: Clauses, like any sentence, have a subject and predicate too. If a group of words does not have a subject and predicate, it is a phrase. If a clause can stand alone and make a complete thought, then it is independent and can be called a sentence. If clauses do not express a complete thought, they are called dependent clauses. An example of a dependent clause, which is not a sentence, is "when I finish my work. So, what are the other basic rules for sentence structure? Subjects and Predicates Basic to any language is the sentence, which expresses a complete thought and consists of a subject and a predicate. The subject is the star of the sentence; the person, animal, or thing that is the focus of it. The predicate will tell the action that the subject is taking or tell something about the subject. Basic Parts of Speech Once you have a general idea of the basic grammar rules for sentence structure, it is also helpful to learn about the parts of speech: A noun names a person, animal, place, thing, quality, idea, activity, or feeling. A noun can be singular, plural, or possessive. A pronoun is a word that takes the place of a noun, like "I", "you", or "they. Linking verbs link the subject to the rest of the sentence and examples are: It adds meaning by telling which one, what kind, or describing it in other ways. An adverb will modify a verb and tell more about it, like how much, when, where, why, or how. A preposition shows a relationship between nouns or pronouns. It is often used with a noun to show location, like "beside," "in," or "on". It can also show time, direction, motion, manner, reason, or possession. Conjunctions connect two words, phrases, or clauses. Common conjunctions are "and", "but", and "or. One of them is the interjection. It shows emotion and examples are "hurray", "uh-oh", and "alas. Indefinite articles are "a" and "an" and "the" is a definite article. Punctuation To fully understand basic grammar rules, you also need to look at punctuation rules. All sentences must start with a capital, or upper-case, letter. Titles of people, books, magazines, movies, specific places, etc. Organizations and compass points are capitalized. Every sentence needs a punctuation mark at the end of it. These include a period, exclamation mark, or question mark. Colons are used to separate a sentence from a list of items, to introduce a long, direct quote, or between two sentences or clauses when the second one explains the first. Semicolons can take the place of a conjunction and are placed before introductory words like "therefore" or "however. There are a lot of rules for commas. The basic ones are that commas separate things in a series and go wherever there is a pause in the sentence. They surround the name of a person being addressed, separate the day of the month from the year in a date, and separate a town from the state. Parentheses enclose things that clarify or numbers and letters that are part of a list. Apostrophes are used in contractions to take the place of one or more letters and also to show possession. An apostrophe and "s" is added if the noun is singular and an apostrophe alone is added if the noun is plural. YourDictionary definition and usage example.

## Chapter 5 : Grammar | Definition of Grammar by Merriam-Webster

*A/an and the are articles. They are a type of determiner and they go before a noun. A/an before a noun shows that what is referred to is not already known to the speaker, listener, writer and/or reader (it is the indefinite article): No, actually, I live in an apartment. The before a noun shows that.*

The highlight of the show is at the end. I always dreamed of being rich and famous. Used to indicate reference: I got married in the summer of This is a picture of my family. I got a discount of 10 percent on the purchase. Used to indicate an amount or number: I drank three cups of milk. A large number of people gathered to protest. I had only four hours of sleep during the last two days. He got a perfect score of 5 on his writing assignment. To Used to indicate the place, person, or thing that someone or something moves toward, or the direction of something: I am heading to the entrance of the building. The package was mailed to Mr. All of us went to the movie theater. Please send it back to me. Used to indicate a limit or an ending point: The snow was piled up to the roof. The stock prices rose up to dollars. Used to indicate relationship: This letter is very important to your admission. My answer to your question is in this envelop. Do not respond to every little thing in your life. Used to indicate a time or a period: I work nine to six, Monday to Friday. It is now 10 to five. In other words, it is 4: For Used to indicate the use of something: This place is for exhibitions and shows. I baked a cake for your birthday. I put a note on the door for privacy. She has been studying hard for the final exam. Used to mean because of: I am so happy for you. We feel deeply sorry for your loss. Used to indicate time or duration: I attended the university for one year only. This is all I have for today.

## Chapter 6 : English Grammar lessons

*Of Used for belonging to, relating to, or connected with: The secret of this game is that you can't ever win. The highlight of the show is at the end.*

## Chapter 7 : The slippery grammar of spoken vs written English

*The slippery grammar of spoken vs written English March 14, am EDT We use different grammar when speaking or writing, but the difference is so subtle that linguists were blind to it for.*

## Chapter 8 : Grammar and Punctuation | The Blue Book of Grammar and Punctuation

*The Teacher's Grammar of English is a comprehensive resource text designed to help ESL/EFL teachers and teachers-in-training understand and teach American English grammar.*

## Chapter 9 : Prepositions "Of," "To," "For" - Basic English Grammar

*The word "the" is one of the most common words in English. It is our only definite article. Nouns in English are preceded by the definite article when the speaker believes that the listener already knows what he is referring to.*