

ASPECTS OF TEACHING GRAMMAR TO ELEMENTARY AND INTERMEDIATE LEVEL STUDENTS

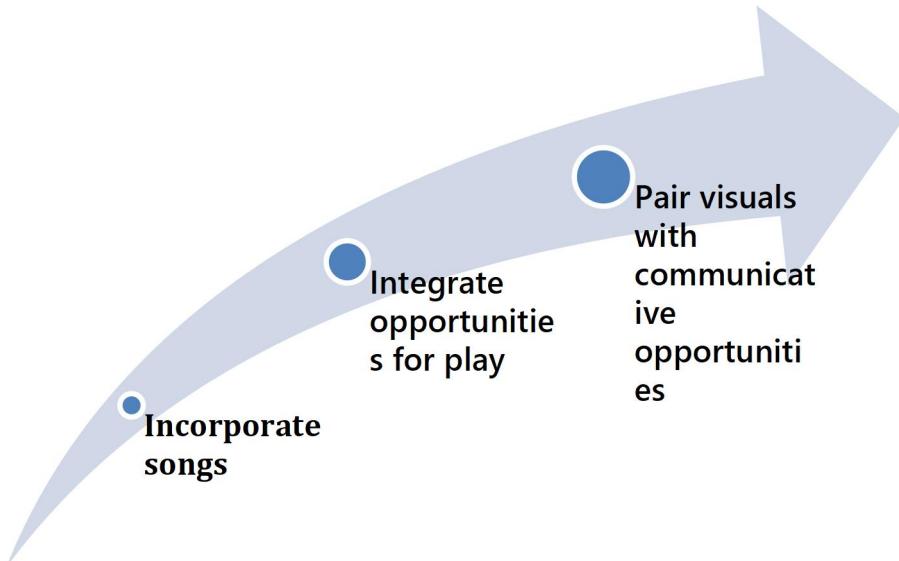
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Abstract: This article summarizes a study exploring key aspects of teaching grammar to elementary and intermediate English language learners. The research investigates effective methodologies and approaches for presenting and practicing grammatical concepts at these levels. It examines various techniques, including inductive and deductive approaches, communicative activities, and the use of authentic materials, analyzing their impact on students' grammatical accuracy and fluency. The study aims to identify best practices for grammar instruction that promote both understanding and practical application for learners at these proficiency levels.

Keywords: grammar, structure, knowledge, educator, improve, method, effective, strategy, level.

Grammar instruction is a fundamental aspect of English language teaching, playing a crucial role in developing students' communication skills. However, many learners perceive grammar as complex, tedious, or difficult to master. The integration of modern technology into grammar instruction has provided innovative ways to enhance student engagement and learning outcomes. This study explores the effectiveness of various digital tools and teaching methods that incorporate technology to improve grammar proficiency among intermediate-level learners. By leveraging digital resources, educators can create interactive, flexible, and student-centered learning environments that make grammar instruction more effective and enjoyable.

Elementary English – Best App for learning English Grammar from developers of Visual Vocabulary App. This English grammar app covers 100+ popular grammar topics using simple explanations, many examples, and colorful pictures. All grammar topics are available for free. This English Grammar app is perfect for Beginner and Intermediate levels. More than 2000 grammar questions will gradually improve your skills. When you complete your English test you see which aspects of English grammar you are good at and which of them require more practice. Our language app is the best way to study English. Minimalist design and clear user interface make it easy to test your grammar skills. Whether you are an English language learner or a native English speaker, this English grammar app will help you with the structure of English. By improving your English grammar, your writing and speaking will both improve. Entrance exams require the possession of extensive English knowledge. This grammar app can be helpful for improving required skills for exams like CAT, IELTS, TOEFL, GRE, GMAT, MAT, XAT, NMAT, SNAP, SAT, SSC, CGL, Bank PO, CET, GATE, IAS, IBPS, IES, UPSC, JKSSB, PTE, DU JAT, TOEIC, NIFT, JBPS, CFE.



Incorporate songs

Have you ever had a song stuck in your head that you couldn't seem to shake for hours, perhaps even days? Take advantage of your students' innate music memory and use songs for teaching English grammar. If you're teaching the simple tenses, you might use The Tenses Song (Past, Present, and Future) to lay a foundation for when to use these tenses. Alternatively, you could be bold and create your own jingles that reinforce the grammatical structures you're examining.

The following example might be performed by splitting the class into two groups, having one group begin and the other respond.

A: Peter maked his bed?

B: Peter **made** his bed.

A: Peter goed to the market?

B: Peter **went** to the market.

A: Peter eated pizza for dinner?

B: Peter **ate** pizza for dinner.

All: What a great day Peter **had**!

After one round, students can switch roles. You can create a catchy melody or pair it with that of a well-known song.

Integrate opportunities for play

Incorporating games into grammar instruction can be incredibly effective and engaging. You can use games to introduce new structures, reinforce what you've just examined, or both! Consider games like Board Race that utilize TPR (Total Physical Response) to aid in retention and burn a bit of extra energy.

To play Board Race with a grammar twist:

1. Divide your students into small groups and have them congregate in different corners of the room.
2. Place index cards with clearly written past tense irregular verbs in a common space, with equidistance from each of the groups.
3. Say a word out loud in the present tense, and have students chat with their peers to figure out what past tense verb they need to locate on the board.

4. Have students send one representative to the board to grab the word before the other teams do.

Make this silly (and slow down the pace) by having students move in different ways, such as bear-crawling, skipping, or swimming through the air.

Pair visuals with communicative opportunities

Visuals can serve as wonderful aids to teach English grammar, spelling out rules for students explicitly (deductive teaching), demonstrating the use of a particular structure in context, and asking students to notice structures and draw their own conclusions about the rules (inductive teaching). If you're using a deductive approach, you might show your students a simple chart with two columns for the simple present and the simple past tenses. You'd explicitly tell students that when a verb is regular in the present tense, you simply add an -ed (or just the -d, if the base form ends in "e") to make it past tense. On the other hand, an inductive approach might be that you showcase sets of images with short sentences underneath narrating what's happening in the images. For example, the first picture in a set might show little Sara sitting contentedly with a scoop of ice cream, with the subtitle "Sara likes ice cream." The second picture in the set might show little Sara again, this time with ice cream all over her face and an empty bowl. She has a satisfied grin on her face and the subtitle reads "Sara liked her ice cream a lot." Students would see that the past tense is indicated by the -ed ending (and the empty bowl). But why stop there? Give students an opportunity to explore the language and solidify their understanding with communicative activities.

1. Instead of giving the students the descriptive subtitles for the images, have them create their own. What's happening in the picture? What kind of ice cream did Sara eat? Where did she eat it, and with whom?

2. Have students create questions for each other that use the target language. Have them move around the room and learn more about their peers. Then, they can report their findings in a culminating discussion.

3. Engage the students in group storytelling. Have them sit in a circle and remind them of the language you want them to use. Let their imaginations run wild! Have one student start the story ("Once upon a time...") and have another student add to that idea, continuing until everyone has contributed. If your students are able to work autonomously, break them into smaller groups instead.

Not only do these extension activities afford more practice for students, but they give you a chance to notice output trends, offer corrective feedback in the moment, and keep students engaged.

Conclusion

This paper investigates effective methods for teaching grammar to elementary and intermediate English language students. The research explores various approaches, including inductive and deductive learning, communicative activities, and the integration of authentic materials. Findings suggest that a balanced approach incorporating explicit instruction with meaningful communicative practice yields the best results. The study highlights the importance of adapting teaching strategies to suit the specific needs and learning styles of students at these proficiency levels, ultimately aiming to improve both grammatical accuracy and fluency. The research concludes that effective grammar instruction should foster not only a theoretical understanding of grammatical rules but also the practical ability to apply them in real-world communication.



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