

INTRODUCTION

The aim of this book is to help children better understand the use of English grammar.

I was a primary school teacher for over thirty-five years and know the need to encourage children to express themselves clearly and accurately.

Please use this book to assist in the understanding and use of English.



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LESSON ONE – WORDS

Grammar is the key to speaking and writing correctly. It is a combination of rules that should be followed. We use words to speak and write. Words consist of letters.

There are twenty-six letters: 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. Together these form the alphabet.

The letters are divided into two categories, which are called consonants and vowels.

The consonants are: b, c, d, f, g, h, j, k, l, m, n, p, q, r, s, t, v, w, x, y, z.

The vowels are: a, e, i, o, u.

Words are made up of one, two, three or more syllables.

The word *man* has one syllable,

wo/man: has two syllables

beau/ti/ful: has three syllables

won/der/ful/ly: has four syllables

A **phrase** is a combination of words *without* a verb.

Example: The long road with tall trees on each side.

A **sentence** is a combination of words with one or more verbs.

Example: She took her bag and went away.

Sentences and phrases form the basis of speech. There are nine parts of speech. They are: **noun, article, adjective, pronoun, verb, adverb, preposition, conjunction and interjection.**

The following sentence contains all the parts of speech mentioned above:

Oh! The boy is fine and he is sitting quietly under that tree.

“Oh!” is an interjection,

“The” is an article,

“boy” is a noun,

“is” is a verb,

“fine” is an adjective,

“and” is a conjunction,

“he” is a pronoun,

“is sitting” is a verb,

“quietly” is an adverb,

“under” is a preposition,

“that” is an adjective and

“tree” is a noun.

LESSON 1 - REVISION AND TEST

1. In the following words, separate the vowels from the consonants: *daughter, visible, bookcase, bedroom, artificially, undertaken.*

Example: daughter — d, g, h, t, r are the consonants; a, u, e are the vowels.

2. Separate the syllables in the words mentioned above.

Example: daugh/ter — two syllables.

3. Name the different parts of speech contained in the following:

(a) Look! We did run quickly but we were overtaken by them.

(b) My father works in a big factory not far from the blue lake.

(c) They have bought a large house with a small garden.

4. Write:

1. Two sentences and underline the verb or verbs in each of them.

(b) Two phrases.
