The Essentialities of the English Grammar

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Abstract: The word ‘Grammar’ is obtained from Greek word grammatike (techne) ‘art of letters’ which refers ‘philology and literature. Perhaps it is obtained from Greek word ‘gramma’ which means ‘letter’, Latin word ‘grammatica’ which means ‘grammar’, ‘philology’ and Old French word ‘gramaire’ which means ‘grammar’; ‘learning’. According to linguistics grammar is the set of structural rules which effects the construction of sentences, clauses, phrases in any particular language. Grammar is like a glamour for the language because without perfect usage of grammar the language does not give its complete sense. It is the systematic study and representation of a language. Grammar, that helps to comprehend the usage of words and their elements combine to form a structured sentences with a good sense. Grammar is most important to learn any language because it is the sound structure and meaningful system of a language. One who is good at grammar can make senseful sentence constructions. Therefore, the role of grammar plays a key role in learning and using a language. But in modern language learners or users not bothering about grammatical mistakes or usage errors in their language while communicating, writing or drafting letters om day to day life. Many may speak in English language, but a few are perfect at usage of language and maintaining both accuracy and fluency when they speak. The present paper deals with the problems faced by many professionals and corporates committing errors in language usage.

Keywords: Syntax, Inflections, Word Formation, American English, British English, Grammar, Prepositions

I. THE ROLE OF GRAMMAR IN LEARNING ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Communicative skills are more essential in today’s world to survive or to win bread and butter, and moreover, it need not be stressed because the communication occupies a prominent place in social interaction. People always admire to have a master of communicative skills. Many struggle to make proper communication with others especially while speaking in English language, because communicating in the English language is not that much trouble-free task, as it has certain rules. The rules of English are the principles that govern syntax, the inflections, word formation, sentence structures, pronunciation, punctuation marks, marking stress and other characteristics of the language.

Applied grammar stands for grammar in practical application. It is related to accurate and appropriate usages of words, phrases, clauses, idioms. It deals with different sentence structures. It is also a study in accidence and syntax. Thus, it is different from basic grammar, which is concerned with nomenclature, form and function of words, phrases, clauses and sentences.

A study of applied grammar is very useful to learners. It teaches them how to use words correctly and aptly. It also makes learners learn how to express themselves in correct and compact sentences. It helps them in writing grammatically correct English. In this way, applied grammar enriches their knowledge and skill in the use of words and phrases and also helps them in cultivating a simple, concise and distinct style.

II. WHY GRAMMAR IS ESSENTIAL! (?)

Grammar is the structured study and representation of a language, and it helps to understand how words and their component parts combine to form sentences. Most of the non-English teachers and common people think that correct English grammar matters only to English teachers and is of no real importance in daily life contexts. Certainly it is not true. Grammar rules and structures can help learners to develop the habit of thinking logically and clearly. Once the grammar is learned, learners are able to become more accurate when using the English language. One cannot expect clear communication without good grammar.

Accurate grammar makes you perfect and keeps away from being misunderstood while expressing your thoughts and ideas. A writer or speaker with poor grammar skills may form a negative impression in the minds of readers or listeners. Improving grammar makes a good impression and also it helps to develop the fluency of the speaker. As a result, it will be helpful to speak, read and write the language more fluently. Generally, in beginning learners commit to write faulty English. While constructing sentences, usage of words sometimes may go wrong in meaning and usage. Besides, the sentence formation it may be defective in the use of tense, voice, predicate, adverbial phrases. Sometimes, their clauses are not correctly formed and joined with each other so
as to make a correct complex or compound sentence. Hence, for using correct English, it is essential to learn more about the correct meaning and usage of different parts of speech besides knowing how to construct correct sentence formation. Therefore, learners should concentrate to learn the usage of articles, nouns, pronouns, adjectives, adverbs, verbs, prepositions, conjunctions, participles, gerunds and infinitives, bare infinitives, to infinitives, model auxiliary verbs and structures of English grammar.

III. AWARE OF AMERICAN ENGLISH AND BRITISH ENGLISH

There are a few differences of grammar, spelling, vocabulary, idioms and phrases between American English and British English. Modern British English is extremely influenced by American English. Therefore, these essentialities take part in every occasion in the English grammar.

A. Grammar

As it is known fact that it is used British English and considered as standard English, but due to computer terminology most of the language learners have been using American English and getting confused with the grammar and spelling in many ways as mentioned below with examples:

| British english                                | American English                        |
|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| He has just gone home.                        | He just went home.                      |
| Have you got a problem?                       | Do you have a problem?                  |
| I’ve never really got to know her.            | I have never really gotten to know her?  |
| You can see a car coming.                     | You (can) see a car coming.             |
| The committee meet/meets tomorrow.            | The committee meets tomorrow.           |
| Hello, is that Ramesh?                        | Hello, is this Ramesh?                  |
| It looks as if / like it’s going to rain.     | It looks like it’s going to rain.       |
| One should get to know one’s neighbours.      | One should get to know his neighbors.   |

Table:1 Grammar differences between British English and American English

B. Vocabulary

There are many differences in vocabulary between American English and British English. A few examples as follows:

| American English       | British English     |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| Airplane               | Aeroplane           |
| Mad                    | Angry               |
| Counter-clockwise      | Anti-clockwise      |
| Apartment              | Flat/apartment      |
| Area code              | Dialing code        |
| Attorney, Lawyer       | Barrister, solicitor|
| Busy                   | Engaged             |
| Trunk                  | Boot                |
| Cookie                 | Biscuit             |
| Cab/Taxi               | Taxi                |
| Car park               | Parking lot         |
| Trailer                | Caravan             |
| Can                    | Tin                 |
| Candy                  | Sweets              |
| Check/Bill             | Bill (restaurant)   |
| Chips (Potato)         | Crisps              |
| Fries/French fries     | Chips               |
| Coin-Purse             | Purse               |
| Drug store             | Chemist’s shop      |
| Coffin/Casket          | Coffin              |
| Intersection; crossroads (rural) | Crossroads         |
### Table: 2 Vocabulary differences between American English and British English

| AMERICAN ENGLISH               | BRITISH ENGLISH               |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Garbage can/trash can         | Dustbin                     |
| Garbage collector             | Dustman                     |
| Engine, motor                 | Engine                      |
| Real estate agent             | Estate agent                |
| Film, Movie                   | Film                        |
| Flat tire                     | Flat tyre                   |
| Overpass                      | Flyover                     |
| Ground floor/first floor      | Ground floor                |
| Main street                   | High street                 |
| Vacation                      | Holiday                     |
| Elevator                      | Lift                        |
| Truck, Van                    | Lorry                       |
| Train station                 | Railway station             |
| Two weeks                     | Fortnight, two weeks        |
| Timetable                     | Schedule                    |
| Underway                      | Under way                   |
| Windshield                    | Windscreen (on a car)       |
| Zip                           |                             |

### C. Prepositions

There are some differences in the usage of prepositions as mentioned below:

| AMERICAN ENGLISH               | BRITISH ENGLISH               |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| On the weekend                | At the weekend              |
| Live on YSR street            | Live in JMR street          |
| A player on the team          | A player in the team        |
| Monday through Sunday         | Monday to Sunday            |
| Write someone/write to someone| Wrote to someone            |
| Different from/than           | Different from/to           |
| Ten minutes past/after five   | Ten minutes past five       |
| Ten minutes to/after          | Ten (minutes) to nine       |

### Table: 3 Prepositional differences between American English and British English

### D. Spellings

There are spelling differences of certain words as mentioned below:

| AMERICAN ENGLISH | BRITISH ENGLISH |
|------------------|----------------|
| Analyze          | Analyse        |
| Apologize        | Apologise/Apologize |
| Catalog/Catalogue| Catalogue      |
| Center           | Centre         |
| Check            | Cheque (money) |
| Color            | Colour         |
| Defense          | Defence        |
| Dialog/dialogue  | Dialogue       |
| Labor            | Labour         |
| Humor            | Humour         |
| Neighbor         | Neighbour      |
| Honor            | Honour         |

| American English | British English |
|------------------|-----------------|
| Analyze          | Organize/Organise|
| Apologize        | Offense         |
| Catalogue        | Jeweler         |
| Center           | Programme       |
| Check            | Meter           |
| Color            | Recognize       |
| Defense          | Realize, realize|
| Dialog/dialogue  | Skillful        |
| Labor            | Theatre         |
| Humor            | Traveller       |
| Neighbor         | Oestrogen       |
| Honor            | Pediatric       |
E. Phrasal Verbs

Phrasal Verbs are the combination of two or three words from different grammatical classes. These phrasal verbs are formed like, a verb and preposition, such as a verb + an adverb, a verb + an adverb + a preposition and a verb + a preposition. These phrasal verbs may vary from American English to British English.

The examples as follows:

| American English       | British English | American English       | British English |
|------------------------|-----------------|------------------------|-----------------|
| Check up on            | Out check       | Miss out on            | Miss            |
| Close down             | Close           | Sound out              | Sound           |
| Do (something)         | Over            | Start up               | Start           |
| Again                  | Do (something) again | Stop off              | Stop            |
| Consult with           | Consult         | Try out                | Try             |
| Go up                  | Go              | Visit with             | Visit           |
| Lose out on            | Lose            | Live on                | Live in         |
| Match up               | Match           | On a team              | In a team       |
| Meet up with           | Meet            | Sunday through Monday  | Sunday to Monday|

Table: 5 Phrasal Verbs differences between American English and British English

F. The Role of Grammar in Modern Usage

In the present era learners are not bothered about the accuracy while language usage. Many graduates are not in a position to frame perfect sentence structures while writing or speaking for instance, instead of asking a question it is asked in statement structure but the tone would be in question the examples as follows:

| S.No. | Question form               | Statement as question form |
|-------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1.    | Are you coming to class?    | You are coming to class?   |
| 2.    | Do we play cricket?         | We play cricket?           |
| 3.    | Is that your mother?        | That’s your mother?        |
| 4.    | Have you worked in a restaurant before? | You have worked in a restaurant before? |

Table: 6 Difference between question form and statement as question for

IV. CONCLUSION

The paper gives practical advice about choosing the most effective words to make one’s expression clear and precise. One should use the correct parts of speech, tense, vocabulary and grammar structures along with punctuation marks. Idioms and phrases, prepositions and common errors, correct and incorrect expressions to be learned, because most of the learners are committing many grammatical mistakes while usage of the English language. It is important to learn grammar thoroughly not to commit any mistake further.

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