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### Role of Grammar in Communicative Language Learning

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#### Abstract

The paper highlights the title “Role of Grammar in Communicative Language Learning”. Language which acts as a tool of communication is considered one of the most valuable possessions of humans. English is a global language. Grammar, being a mechanism of language, takes a vital role in English Language teaching. Language knowledge and language usage for communication are two different aspects in the language learning process. When language is put to use, it works through different dimensions for multiple uses. For example, a noun can be converted into a verb in different ways and the resultant functions are different. The conversion indicates the message as per need. Grammatical competence is utilised for successful communication. An important part of communicative grammar is the knowledge that we need acquire to know the appropriate choice according to the situations we are in. To use a language and to acquire communicative skills, grammar is a must and so one must know the grammatical

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Role of Grammar in Communicative Language Learning

forms, structures and their meanings. Although all round communicative competence involves all four skills, Speaking and Writing (Production). Listening and Reading (Reception), Grammar stands responsible for acquiring Communicative Language Learning.

## **Introduction**

English is a global language. Grammar, being a mechanism of language, takes a vital role in the English language. The grammar of a language has to be put in use with dexterity, involving all the nuances of the language. Language knowledge and language usage for communication are two different aspects in the language learning process. When language is put to use, using each element or category, it attains different dimensions for multiple uses. A noun can be converted into a verb in different ways and the functions are different. The conversion renders distinct potentiality to the rare word to indicate the message as per need. The cognition and the inner mental grammar aid the process of conversion.

Language is primarily a spoken phenomenon. The written word is simply a means of representing speech on the page so that we can address people who can hardly hear us. The main objective of learning a language is to develop the ability to communicate efficiently in the language. Efficient communication is characterized by the three-fold qualities of appropriateness, accuracy and fluency, each quality influencing supporting and enriching others.

## **Grammatical Sentence Structure**

It is necessary to see how Grammatical Sentence Structure can help us to notice some of the ways in which statements can be put together and the effects which different sentence structures can achieve. Grammar sentence structure is used for many stylistic purposes. Sentence is the backbone of any communication and must also be free of grammatical errors. It should be direct, consistent, methodical and interesting. Communicative competence rests on a set of composite skills of which one is grammatical competence and this is crucial to successful communication. It is disappointing to note that even those students who already have good grounding in the grammar of the language after several years of studying English in the school do not perform well. This we believe may be partly due to grammar fatigue. Anyhow grammatical structures are systematically related to meanings, uses and situations.

Since traditional grammar tends to concentrate on written language, it is important for a communicative grammar to describe and exemplify both types of language use. That the grammar of language is indeed of a central concern to speakers since it describes what makes language tick, how it can carry the meanings we want to communicate.

The primary roles of a communicative grammar ensure and enhance the ability and confidence to use language accurately in communication. For example: In the use of the phrasal

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Role of Grammar in Communicative Language Learning

verb with a preposition, the object comes after the preposition. It cannot come between the verb and the preposition.

Raja is looking for a better job - Correct

Raja is looking a better job for -Incorrect

Das works hardly -Incorrect

Das works hard -Correct

Grammar helps us shape the content to its correct form.

### **Grammar in Spoken and Written English**

English like other languages makes use of two channels: speech and writing. They have different transmission systems. Speech is transmitted by sound waves, originated in speaking and received in hearing. Writing is transmitted by letters and other visible marks, produced in writing and received in reading. Gaining communicative competence involves all four macro skills, Speaking and writing (Production) and Hearing and reading (Reception). Spoken and Written English must have different sorts of grammars. For the benefit of those who want to acquire good and all round communicative competence, there may be certainly differences in the use of English Grammar. In the case of Spoken English, communication requires fast, almost instantaneous, production and understanding. An important part of communicative grammar to know the appropriate choice according to the situation the speaker or writer is in.

### **Use of Grammatical Forms, Structures and Meanings**

To use a language properly, we have to know the grammatical forms and structures and their meanings. We have to know what forms of language are appropriate for given situations. For this purpose, one will find in both those parts a variety of labels such as (spoken) (written) AME (American English) BEC (British English) (Formal) (Informal) (Polite) and (Familiar) etc. These labels are reminders that the English language is, in a sense, not a single language, but many languages, each belonging to a particular geographical area to a particular kind of situation. The English used in formal written communications is in some ways different from the English used in informal conversation. The English used in the USA is somewhat different from the English used in Great Britain, in Australia and so on. On the other hand, when we write, we usually have time to revise, check and rewrite what we have written. Likewise when we receive a piece of writing we can read it, reread it, ponder over it and discuss it. Spoken language is the most widely used form of language.

Within spoken language, there are many variations but we will distinguish two main uses of spoken English. At first, the most common use is in conversation with two or more

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Role of Grammar in Communicative Language Learning

participants taking their turns when talking to each other, either face to face or on the telephone . For the foreign student of English, this is particularly an important type to learn because it is the most common everyday use of speech. This conversation is absolutely impromptu or spontaneous.

### **Poor Proficiency of Indians in English**

Indian software industry and software engineers play an important role in the world stage. Of course, Indians occupy senior positions in multi-national corporations. This has been facilitated by the proficiency of Indians in the English Language. At the same time, our education system is finding it difficult to ensure that the graduates passing out of our universities possess the skills required to communicate in an error free and effective manner in English. Students who study the professional course do not know how to use words in sentences grammatically.

### **Language is Dynamic**

Language is dynamic and evolves continually. The development of modern technology fuelled the need for a specialized form of English to cater to its distinct communication needs. Scientific and engineering writing presents information clearly and concisely without ambiguity, empty phrases and repetition. There is no place for rambling or unnecessary embellishment. Attention to grammar and style is required, However, every word has to be chosen carefully to present information clearly and concisely without ambiguity, empty phrases and repetition.

Language helps systematic communication through vocal symbols. Each language is essentially a code that is a group of symbols which can be structured so as to be meaningful to others. The English Language like any other language is a code. It contains words that are arranged in a meaningful grammatical structure or order. We should be certain that this encoding is done in such way that the recipient is able to decipher the code easily.

Communication does not end with encoding or decoding a message. The main objective of the communication is to facilitate the exchange of thoughts and ideas in an effective and methodical way. Those who have a good command over the English language should be aware of the pitfalls that may beguile them. The words and sentences which are used should be simple, clear, brief and unambiguous, Without these attributes, communication of any sort is bound to become boring, stilted and foggy.

### **Conclusion**

The concise expression of an idea or thought, is fundamental for communication. Instead of using clumsy expressions or unnecessary words, ideas should be expressed as precisely as possible. Brevity is the most important aspect here. A sentence is a unit of thought. It is a

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collection of words syntactically and grammatically arranged to convey a certain meaning. Words should be properly and grammatically arranged in a sentence in such way that the reader gets a clear idea of what the speaker or writer wants to convey. As language is a code, the sentence should be framed in such a well-ordered way that the reader finds it easy to decode (understand) it. So, both the writer and the speaker must adhere to grammatical rules, while framing a sentence. On the whole, for speaking and writing (Production) and listening and reading (Reception) Grammar stands responsible for Communicative Language Learning.

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