

實驗高級英文法
EXPERIMENTAL ENGLISH
GRAMMAR

FOR
ADVANCED STUDENTS

DOZEN J. DUNN

◆(43703)

實驗高級英文法

Experimental English

Grammar

for Advanced Students

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PREFACE

In teaching senior middle school students, the author has always felt the want of a textbook on English grammar, which is so written as to enable both the teacher and the students to secure greater efficiency in their work. It is too often the case that many students who have studied English four or five years are unable to write a short letter or composition correctly. This, perhaps, may be laid to the fact that they regard the classification of words and the analysis of sentences as the chief business of grammar, and therefore deem it sufficient just to commit to memory a set of definitions and rules. They have overlooked the value of combining practice with theory. As a result, they complain that the English language is difficult to master. They do not know that it is not the language as a whole, but certain things which are peculiar to it that puzzle them most. Among the peculiar difficulties of Chinese students may be mentioned the correct use of the tenses, the auxiliaries, and the subjunctive mood, as well as the idiomatic uses of articles and prepositions. Such difficulties should be removed as early as possible, when the students have begun their work in a senior middle school. Hence, a grammar written in accordance with the time-honored order of nouns, pronouns, adjectives, etc., would not answer the purpose.

In view of this, the author has evolved the present plan for the compiling of an English grammar, which is intended to supply the want mentioned above. In preparing this book, he has constantly kept in mind the point of view and

the peculiar difficulties of Chinese students. Special prominence, therefore, has been given to verbs, prepositions, conjunctions and articles. The students have been from time to time warned against such common errors as are most apt to be made, and in addition, Chinese equivalents are occasionally put in to facilitate studying.

This book consists of four parts. Part One treats of the structure of the sentence. The five chapters constituting this part are intended for review, for those who use this book are assumed to have already studied some elementary grammar. The discussion of the verb covers the whole of Part Two. This takes the precedence of all other parts of speech, because it is the verb that Chinese students always find to be the most difficult and perplexing. Part Three deals with the other parts of speech. The classes and inflections of nouns, pronouns, adjectives, and adverbs are discussed in detail, and special stress is laid on prepositions and articles. Prepositions are grouped together according to their similarity in meaning with plenty of phrases and exercises. In Part Four is a treatment of the arrangement, transformation, and synthesis of sentences, which serve to enable the students to express their thoughts in different ways and prepare them for making a further study of the language.

As this book is the result of ten years' experience in teaching English, there is reason to hope that it will prove of some service. If its usefulness should be sufficient to warrant a second edition, the author would heartily welcome any criticisms or suggestions that might tend to its improvement.

In preparing this book, the author has made free use of so many books on grammar for reference that his gratitude

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is beyond his power of expression. Special acknowledgment, however, should be made of aid received from the grammars of Kittredge and Arnold, Reed and Kellogg, and J. C. Nesfield.

DOZEN J. DUNN

THE FIRST GIRLS MIDDLE SCHOOL
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EXPERIMENTAL ENGLISH GRAMMAR

FOR ADVANCED STUDENTS

PART ONE THE SENTENCE

CHAPTER I SCHEME OF THE SENTENCE

1. SUBJECT AND PREDICATE.

1. *Dr. Sun Yat-sen* is the father of the Chinese Republic.
2. *Nanking* is the capital of China.
3. The bright *sun* *shines* in the blue sky.

Each of the above groups of words is a sentence, for each expresses a complete thought. In the first sentence, *Dr. Sun Yat-sen*, which names the person we are talking about, is called the subject of the sentence; *is*, which says something about the subject, is called the predicate. In the other two sentences, *Nanking* and *sun* are the subjects; *is* and *shines* are the predicates.

In order to express a **complete thought**, a sentence must possess two parts, the SUBJECT and the PREDICATE.

- / 2. A sentence is a group of words expressing a complete thought. It must have a subject and a predicate.

A sentence can never be made without both or either of these two parts, so they are very necessary.

3. The subject names the person, place, or thing that we are talking about; the predicate says something about the subject.

The subject is always a noun or pronoun or some word or group of words used as a noun; the predicate is always a verb or verb phrase.

4. The noun or pronoun used as subject is said to be in the **nominative case**.

EXERCISE 1

From the following group of words, select those which are not sentences. In those which are sentences, pick out the subject and the predicate:

1. Children love to listen to interesting stories.
2. Grammar teaches us the correct use of language.
3. We in the classroom.
4. Birds of a feather flock together.
5. Is the largest river in China.
6. How to study the English language.
7. Every Chinese citizen should love China.
8. Students are the future master of China.
9. Principles for saving China.
10. Every true student will do something for society.
11. Sells shoes and hats.
12. All men are really brothers.
13. The book on the table belongs to me.
14. Plenty of play and recreation after school.
15. Pure water is necessary to health.
16. He always writes neatly.
17. Too busily engaged to speak to me.
18. The first president of the Republic of China.
19. Fire burns.
20. Patient effort removes mountains.

EXERCISE 2

Use the following nouns as subject in short sentences:
apple, bird, carpenter, friend, book, tiger, tree, fisherman, flower, girl

EXERCISE 3

Use the following verbs as predicate in short sentences:
tell, write, run, sing, eat, find, study, fly, play, see

✓ 5. FORMS OF SUBJECT.

1. *Time* flies like an arrow. (noun)
2. *We* study to obtain knowledge. (pronoun)
3. *The rich* should help the poor. (adjective)
4. *To labor* is the lot of mankind. (infinitive)
5. *Swimming* is a good exercise. (gerund)
6. *How to help him* puzzles all of us. (phrase)
7. *That the earth is round* is known by us. (clause)

From the above sentences we can see that there are seven different forms of subject, viz., NOUN, PRONOUN, ADJECTIVE, INFINITIVE, GERUND, PHRASE and CLAUSE.

6. An infinitive is formed by prefixing the sign *to* to the simple present form or the present perfect form of a verb (§188). Thus,

(a) Simple form:

TO GO

(b) Perfect form:

TO HAVE GONE

7. A gerund is formed by adding the suffix *ing* to the simple present form of a verb (§214). Thus,
reading, writing, working, sleeping

8. A phrase is a group of connected words which does not contain a subject and a predicate and is used like a single part of speech (§ 41). Thus,

The bureau of education, the Republic of China, the First Girls' Middle School

9. A clause is a part of a sentence containing a subject and a predicate (§38). Thus, in the clause used as subject in the seventh sentence, the subject is *earth*, and the predicate is *is*.

10. MODIFIERS OF THE SUBJECT.

1. A *big, swift, black* horse ran down the street. (adjectives)
2. *Singing* birds delight us. (participle)
3. The man *standing on the platform* is our English teacher. (participial phrase)
4. My *friend's* hat is still new. (noun in the possessive case)
5. *His* wonderful progress made us astonished. (pronoun in the possessive case)
6. A house *to let* cannot be found. (infinitive)
7. The *summer* months are June, July and August. (noun used as adjective)
8. The book *on the table* belongs to me. (prepositional phrase)
9. Confucius, *'the greatest sage*, of China had three thousand disciples. (appositive)
10. The man *who was praised so much* was really a hypocrite. (adjective clause)

A modifier is a word or group of words which modifies the meaning of another word.

In the above sentences we may find ten different forms of modifiers of the subject, and the subject in each is a noun. As an adjective is a word used to modify a noun or pronoun, so it is a natural and the most common form of modifier of the subject. All the others may be said to be adjective equivalents.

11. A participle is a form of the verb that partakes the nature of an adjective (§201). Thus,

1. The *blooming* flowers are beautiful. (present participle)
2. The *faded* flowers covered the ground. (past participle)

12. A prepositional phrase consists of a preposition and its object either with or without other words. Thus, of China, on the desk, in the room, at home

13. An appositive is a noun added to another noun or pronoun to explain it and signifying the same person or thing. Thus,

1. Jack, the *sail*, saved the poor old man.
2. I, the *teacher*, advise you to be diligent.

14. The subject with all its modifiers is called the COMPLETE SUBJECT, while the subject alone is called the SIMPLE SUBJECT.

15. The verb or verb phrase with its modifiers and complements is called the COMPLETE PREDICATE, while the verb or verb phrase alone is called the SIMPLE PREDICATE.

EXERCISE 4

In each of the following sentences, mention the subject and the predicate, and tell in what form each subject is:

1. I shall see my friend. *Simple*
2. His friends are men of good repute. *Complex*
3. A rolling stone gathers no moss.
4. To see is to believe.
5. Sleeping is necessary to health.
6. When to start for Nanking is uncertain.

7. Smoking injures both body and mind.
8. That honesty is the best policy is a truth.
9. You should respect yourself.
10. The president of the United States lives in the White House.
11. Whoever disobeys me should be punished.
12. To tell a lie is a bad habit.
13. The earth will supply everything necessary for men.
14. He is fond of drinking.
15. How to spend the summer vacation is worthy of consideration.

EXERCISE 5

In the following sentences, pick out (a) the simple subject and the simple predicate, (b) the modifiers of each subject, and say in what form each modifier is:

1. All good citizens obey the laws.
2. Mr. Lee, a rich merchant, had a house and two shops.
3. My friend has just returned from Nanking.
4. The travelers, climbing to the top of the hill, can see the Pacific Ocean.
5. A friend in need is a friend indeed.
6. The man who is going abroad for the summer will let his house.
7. This old man wears spectacles.
8. An idle man's brain is the devil's workshop.
9. Your uncle is a serious-minded man.
10. Water to drink is scarce in the desert.
11. The watch that I bought yesterday is lost.
12. The roof of the house is red.
13. This book, an English-Chinese dictionary, was expensive.
14. The turtle's backbone and breastbone are on the outside of its body.
15. A bird, lighting near my window, greeted me with a song.

EXERCISE 6

Complete the following sentences by supplying to each predicate a subject in the form indicated:

1. (pronoun) are students.
2. (noun with modifiers) belongs to his sister.
3. (noun with modifiers) lives in Shanghai.
4. (infinitive) is our first duty.
5. (gerund) invigorates our body.
6. (infinitive) causes indigestion.
7. (noun with modifiers) is my teacher.
8. (noun with modifiers) speaks English fluently.
9. (noun with modifiers) has escaped.
10. (gerund) improves our mind.
11. (noun with modifiers) visited me last evening.
12. (noun with participial phrase) are all in their teens.
13. (noun with modifiers) stands over there.
14. (noun modified by a noun) abounds in flowers.
15. (noun with a prepositional phrase) invited me to take dinner with them.

16. MODIFIERS OF THE PREDICATE.

1. She reads *slowly* but *distinctly*. (adverbs)
2. He struggled *with courage*. (prepositional phrase)
3. The man has worked *two hours*. (adverbial object)
4. We should strive *to attain our goal*. (infinitive phrase)
5. *The teacher coming*, the students immediately keep quiet. (absolute phrase)
6. He will succeed, *if his friend encourages him frequently*. (adverbial clause)

Modifiers of the predicate, as shown above, are of six different forms.

17. Most adverbial phrases are prepositional phrases; but many idiomatic phrases of other kinds are used adverbially. Thus,

to and fro, now and then, again and again, up and down,
hit or miss, more or less, sink and swim

18. An adverbial object is a phrase consisting of a noun and its modifiers. Thus,

a long time, a hundred times, a great deal of money, a thousand miles, a day

19. An absolute phrase consists of a noun, or pronoun in the nominative case and a participle, or participial phrase. Thus,

1. *Spring having come*, the trees began to bud.
2. *They being our friends*, we should forgive them.
3. *Our work having been finished*, we went home.

EXERCISE 7

Pick out the simple predicates and their modifiers, and tell in what form each modifier is:

1. I have waited a long time.
2. He works hard to get his living.
3. He began to speak, the audience listening intently.
4. Although he is poor, he is honest.
5. The general falling, the soldiers fled.
6. A long journey lay before us.
7. The wall fell with a crash.
8. I shall go to see my friend.
9. He ran the whole distance.
10. I feel happy as soon as her letter comes.
11. We study in school to gain knowledge.
12. She did the work carefully.
13. When the cat is away, the mice play.
14. The Russian Army fought bravely.
15. You can do nothing that way.

EXERCISE 8

Modify the predicates in the following sentences:

1. We come to school (infinitive).
2. All the students study (adverb).
3. The birds are flying (prepositional phrase).
4. We may go home (absolute phrase). *clause*
5. You have studied English (adverbial object).
6. We stay indoors (adverbial phrase).
7. The hunters crept along (prepositional clause).
8. He lay down (infinitive). *phrase*
9. Every man should sleep (adverbial object).
10. The weather is hot (adverbial clause).

20. DIRECT OBJECT AND INDIRECT OBJECT.

1. The students all *laughed*.
2. Roses *bloom* in the garden.
3. The carpenters *built* a house. (direct object)
4. The brave dog *rescued* the little girl. (direct object)
5. The merchant *gave* the sailor money. (an indirect and a direct object)
6. My father *bought* me a new book. (an indirect and a direct object)

Verbs that may be followed by a word, phrase or clause denoting that which receives the action or is produced by it are called TRANSITIVE VERBS. Transitive means *passing across*.

A word, phrase, or clause that completes the meaning of a transitive verb is called its DIRECT OBJECT. In the third sentence *built* is a transitive verb and *house* is its direct object. In the fourth, *rescued* is a transitive verb and *girl* is its direct object.

Verbs that do not require a direct object are called INTRANSITIVE VERBS. In the first two sentences, *laughed* and *bloom* are intransitive verbs, they do not require any object.