

Essential English Grammar

A University Prerequisite

English Coursebook

New Edition

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سرشناسه: باقری، محمد صادق، ۱۳۴۲
 Bagheri, Mohammad Sadegh
 عنوان و پدید آور: Essential english grammar (a university prerequisite english course book)/
 Mohammad S. Bagheri, Mohammad J. Riasati.
 وضعیت ویراست: 2nd ed
 مشخصات نشر: شیراز: ایده درخشان، ۱۳۹۶ = ۲۰۱۸ م.
 مشخصات ظاهری: ۱۱۰ ص: مصور (بخشی رنگی).
 شابک: ۹۷۸-۶۰۰-۶۳۶۶-۷۳-۹ ریال ۱۲۰۰۰
 وضعیت فهرست نویسی: فیپا
 یادداشت: انگلیسی
 یادداشت: نویسندگان ویراست قبلی: محمد صادق باقری، محمد جواد ریاستی، احسان رسایی.
 آوانویسی عنوان: استنسال...
 موضوع: زبان انگلیسی - دستور - آزمون ها و تمرین ها
 موضوع: English language — Grammar — Examinations, questions, etc.
 موضوع: زبان انگلیسی - دستور - راهنمای آموزشی
 موضوع: English language — Grammar — Study and teaching
 پایه زوده: ریاستی، محمدجواد، ۱۳۵۸ -
 شناسه افزوده: Mohammad Javad .Riasati
 رده بندی کنگره: ۱۳۹۶ ه الف ب/۱۱۲۲ PE
 رده بندی دی ی: ۴۵
 شماره کتابشناسی لی: ۵۰۳۴۵



نویسندگان: محمد صادق باقری، محمد جواد ریاستی

لیتوگرافی: شیراز اسکندر

صفحه آرایی: شیراز اسکندر (لاله مصطفوی)

طرح جلد: لاله مصطفوی

ناشر: انتشارات ایده درخشان

نوبت چاپ: اول (ویرایش جدید) ۱۳۹۶

تیراژ: ۵۰۰۰ نسخه

قیمت: ۱۲۰۰۰ تومان همراه با CD

شابک: ۹۷۸-۶۰۰-۶۳۶۶-۷۳-۹

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Introduction

This book is designed to teach students who almost have no basic knowledge of the English grammar. As grammar is considered the backbone of a language, if students learn some simple but essential structures, later on they can use their creativity and make some novel sentences as they need to do so in natural contexts. The respectable teachers who are supposed to teach this book are kindly required to take some time and go over the guidelines offered by the authors regarding how to teach this book so that they teach this book more efficiently.

To the teacher

Essential English Grammar is exclusively designed to be used as a university pre-requisite English coursebook. However, it can be used to teach basic English grammar especially to adults as an easy fast-forward grammar course. This book has twelve lessons and each lesson has some sections. Each lesson is followed by a comprehensive test covering the lesson materials to check the students' knowledge and performance related to the structures covered in the lesson.

The method of teaching this book is eclectic. No single method can be considered the best method. Research indicates that an amalgamation and integration of the best methods can be more conducive to learning. Thus, it is recommended that respectable teachers teaching this book implement the following methods:

1. Grammar Translation Method: This method is very beneficial especially in learning grammar as the name implies. The focus of teaching throughout this book is on all four skills, namely, listening, speaking, reading and writing. Students first listen to their teacher, then repeat the patterns. After that they are required to make some free sentences orally or in written form. They are supposed to read all the materials as well. The dialogs and reading passages in all lessons are pertinent to the structures covered in each lesson and in this way students get exposed to the designated structures in the appropriate contexts. The students learning this book are not passive learners. They are supposed to produce whatever they have learned through sentence making, writing dialogs and so on.

3. Communicative Language Teaching: This approach helps students interact, gain autonomy and confidence and learn how to communicate on their own. In this method, they can use the language to communicate or they can communicate to learn a language. The tasks required in the book necessitate task-based approach leading to fluency and accuracy. Last but not least, modern approaches of teaching English advocate an integrative approach, that is, focusing on two, three or four skills (i.e., listening, speaking, reading and writing) at the same time.

This book offers a bonus to students and that is a CD which includes audio-files and some simple short stories which include basic and essential vocabulary and expressions.

Deductive or/and inductive mode(s) of teaching can be used in teaching this book. We may move from rules to examples or vice versa. However, it is not a matter of either or. Both modes can be used. Students can listen to the dialogs and reading passages audio-files to have more exposure to English. This way their learning will be reinforced and their accent, pronunciation and intonation as well as word stress improve.

Due to the fact that learning should be fun some supplementary short stories are provided for the learners. Teachers can ask their students to listen to the files and if they are willing and have time they can ask their students to translate the stories into Persian.

Many measures have been taken to turn this book into a comprehensive English grammar book which is both easy and fun. It is hoped that teachers and students find this book appealing and instrumental.

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