

ENGLISH  
SPEECHES

# PERFECT GRAMMAR

READ | WRITE | SPELL | SPEAK



A step-by-step guide to help you read, write, spell and speak better english using perfect grammar.



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**PREVIEW**

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## Author Bio

Ricardo Santos is an entrepreneur and founder of ENGLISH SPEECHES living in Canada who loves sharing knowledge and helping others on the topic of learning English.

Ricardo is a passionate person who will go the extra mile and over-deliver.

Ricardo's words of wisdom:

*"I believe that there are no secrets to becoming successful in life. And I truly believe the result to true success in life is the result from hard work, the preparation and the most important of them all, the learning from the failings."*

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**INTRODUCTION**



**Grammar... what is it exactly? It's the extension of linguistics that deals with word form and structure (morphology) and their relation to sentences (syntax).**

Unfortunately, most people take grammar for granted, using it without fully understanding it. Many times, they use it improperly without considering the linguistics or semantics involved.

## **2 Types of Grammar: Descriptive and Prescriptive**

Descriptive and prescriptive – Those are two types of grammar that are the most widely recognized and used. However, linguists tend to stick with the descriptive side of grammar while English teachers, professors and tutors stick with the prescriptive side. It's important though to understand that both approaches have their positive and negative points.



## Descriptive Grammar

Descriptive grammar is a look at the existence of any language's dialect. A sentence is looked at grammatically, using speech rules that are not set but are spoken. For instance, a grammatically correct sentence would be, "He done got thrown off the horse." You could defend the sentence by the set of grammar rules. However, people would also accept (more widely accepted, in fact) the sentence, "He was thrown off the horse."

## Prescriptive Grammar

Prescriptive grammar is a look at speech norms noted by influential academic sources such as academics and upper-class groups. These sources develop stringent rules for speech to follow to be considered grammatically correct for the language.

Currently, a minute number of linguists use the prescriptive method for grammar. They'd rather talk about language as seen in speech. However, many teachers and grammarians that use the prescriptive method for grammar. They use the strict rules as the only "right way" to talk.

This kind of grammar is used to teach a foreign language. For example, English needs a standard by which to teach it to a non-native speaker. This will help to diminish the confusions students could have.

Once a person understands the language, the descriptive method can be used. Non-native speakers often turn to television and movies to learn how to speak conversationally. These rules may not fit into the prescriptive grammar side of rules.

While descriptive and prescriptive are the two common approaches to language, there are other kinds – functional, comparative and historical. These focus on word order and building, addressing the language's structure. They are also different from semantics (linguistic look at content or meaning) and phonology (linguistic look of sound).

Noah Chomsky is an American linguistic scholar who looks at grammar as the theory of language – the knowledge men have to attain language.

It would be easy to argue that grammar is how people use a particular set of rules for any language to talk with each other. However, it still begs the ultimate question: should people use a descriptive or prescriptive set of rules to communicate?

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