



The pedagogical opportunities of learning English grammar independently

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Abstract: In this article, we view the pedagogical chances of learning english grammar independently, especially the available resources and ways of improving grammar at home without taking courses. Information about the importance of self-study while learning grammar is also given.

Key words: Grammatical competence, self-study, apps, self-assessment, peer-collaboration and feedback.

Annotatsiya: Ushbu maqolada ingliz tili grammatikasini mustaqil ravishda o'rganish imkoniyatlari, mavjud manbalar va hechqanday kurslarsiz grammatikani rivojlantirish usullari ko'rib chiqiladi. grammatikani o'rganishda mustaqil ta'limning ahamiyati to'g'risida ham ma'lumot beriladi.

Kalit so'zlar: Grammatik kompetensiya, mustaqil ta'lim, ilovalar, o'z-o'zini baholash va tengdoshlar bilan hamkorlik.



Аннотация: В данной статье рассматриваются возможности самостоятельного изучения грамматики английского языка, доступные ресурсы и способы развития грамматики без каких-либо курсов.

Ключевые слова: грамматическая компетентность, самостоятельное обучение, применение, самооценка и сотрудничество со сверстниками.

Introduction

Nowadays, learning a second language has become the demand of the 21st century. Therefore, there are a plenty of recourses which enable to learn at home or independently. It is also possible to attend courses physically but self-study plays an important role in learning process, even it makes it easier and faster. In terms of pedagogical opportunities, we can say that it is not difficult to get feedback or to have our knowledge assessed with the help of special websites. Some students cannot understand advanced grammatical structures at first attempt. In other words, when teachers explain a new grammatical theme, they do not have a chance to work with every student independently. Therefore, it can be challenging to comprehend grammatical concepts for non-native speakers. In this case, learning grammar independently with pedagogical opportunities comes in handy for learners.

Main body

There are the following pedagogical opportunities of learning English grammar independently.

Tailored Pace: Learners can progress at their own speed, allowing them to spend more time on challenging concepts and move quickly through familiar ones. This helps to learn faster and more efficiently. When students skip lessons, they are able to find this



theme on the internet. By doing it, they can keep pace with their peers. Interest-Driven Focus: Independent learners can choose topics or areas of grammar that interest them most, leading to greater engagement and motivation. They may learn grammar in different ways such as by watching video or doing tests online. This in turn creates a chance to grab a topic effortless. Variety of Resources: As we are living in the technological era, technology has become an indispensable part of our life, learning languages is not an exception here. Learners can utilize a wide range of materials, including online courses, apps, books, and videos, to suit their learning styles. One example of such devices is a website namely “Grammarily”. It offers multiple features, ranging from checking grammatical accuracy to paraphrasing paragraphs and writing. It can highlight every grammatical mistake, incorrect word choice or the absence of commas.

Accessibility: Independent learning can be done anywhere and at any time, making it easier for learners to fit grammar practice into their schedules. At home, in the library or in the park, learners have a chance to improve their grammar by doing exercises and tests online.

Undoubtedly, there are sufficient number of opportunities as I have mentioned above. However, supervision of teachers is also important while students are learning on their own, they should get feedback from teachers and after finishing one level they should have their level assessed. One way to help learners to successfully grapple with these challenges is obviously the provision of effective grammar instruction (GI) which can come under many guises, ranging widely in the level of explicitness, intensity, selection of the targeted grammar features to be taught or its place in the curriculum (e.g., Loewen, 2020; Nassaji & Fotos, 2011; Pawlak, 2021b). While such instructional options are theoretically grounded and there is copious empirical evidence that GI is effective for the short- and long-term development of explicit and implicit knowledge (Nassaji, 2017), the findings of such research have thus far only marginally affected everyday classroom practices, not least



because some of the new solutions proposed by scholars may not be feasible in many educational contexts (cf. Larsen-Freeman, 2015; Pawlak, 2021c). Even more importantly, the effects of grammar teaching are bound to be mediated by an array of individual difference (ID) factors (e.g., aptitude, working memory, beliefs, motivation, learning styles, learning strategies, emotions) or their combinations, which cannot be effectively catered to in most classrooms due to time constraints, large student groups, inadequate teacher training or the need to meet externally imposed requirements. Therefore, students should find their way of learning, for example: there are different type of learners, such as auditory or visual. By learning a language with the right method, we can shorten the amount of time which is required to be able to be a fluent speaker. Without self-study, it is almost impossible to achieve our goal as only practicing in classrooms is not sufficient to learn a language perfectly. Although there are a plenty of resources in today's world, thanks to social media, we cannot say that all of them are useful and effective. Self -study should also be done under the supervision of teachers because working based on the feedback of teachers avoids making mistakes. Martin Lamb's research (2004, 2007, and 2011) found that in one junior high school in one of a city in Sumatra there had done independent learning for students, especially learning English. The independent learning activities are carried out by watching English programs on television programs, listening to many English songs and practicing semi-self-taught English. The research shows that independent learning activities can be carried out since students are in junior high school. In other hands, independent learning can be done by junior high school students. It is possible if independent learning is applied at a higher level, for example at the senior high school level and higher education. According to, Dardjowidjojo (2000) analysis, the weakness of English language skills of high school graduates is caused by a lack of interaction in the classroom and low student independence. English is indeed a foreign language so the level of use of English is very weak in the application in their lives. Therefore, independent learning must be applied in



their learning methods because it is very helpful in improving mastery of English, especially activities outside the classroom. Without independent practice, mastering children's English will be difficult to improve. Moreover, we should take daily practice into account. Only learning grammar books might not be enough to succeed as after some time we may easily forget the structures and the rules we have learnt. Thus, it is recommended to practice speaking, surprisingly, nowadays it is possible to speak with native speakers through social media, there are certain apps which enable us to communicate with foreigners, such as "speaky" and "italki". Of course, there are several problems of independent learning, having too many resources, textbooks and videos, makes learners confused, meaning they might struggle to make study plan and skip some essential topics, without a formal curriculum. However, this will be tackled by the feedback of teachers. Secondly, Balancing self-study with other responsibilities can be challenging, leading to inconsistent study habits. Students search some topics on the internet, but they tend to get distracted by notifications and adds. As a result, they may end up losing hours. Parents should help in this situation, they have to supervise their screen time. Thirdly, lack of motivation is also one of the most problematic sides of independent learning, especially when it comes to grammar. It takes time to understand the grammar of another language, sometimes we get tired of doing exercises. Improving grammar independently might not be as interesting as in the classroom because physical lessons enable us to share our ideas and interact with our peers. Therefore, students are prone to have a lack of motivation while doing self-study. In this case, finding their suitable way of learning can solve the problem because when we enjoy the process of learning, everything becomes easy we do not struggle at all. The biggest misconception among students is that they think taking courses or attending classing is already enough to achieve their target score, but without self-study, it takes years to develop their grammatical competency because in the classes, students learn mostly theoretically, not practically.



Conclusion. There are many opportunities for self-study of English grammar. There are a number of resources and methods for self-education in this process. First of all, books and study guides, including special grammar textbooks, are an excellent resource for independent study. Such books often offer exercises and examples along with theoretical information. In addition, online platforms and mobile applications, such as Duolingo, Babbel or Grammarly, make learning English grammar more convenient and interactive. These apps offer users different levels of practice and allow them to quickly identify their mistakes. Video lessons and online courses also play an important role. There are many videos on English grammar on platforms like Youtube, which make it easier to understand the theory and put it into practice. You can also improve your English speaking experience through language exchange programs that allow you to interact with each other. You can also practice grammar rules and develop new vocabulary by reading articles, books and blogs written in English. All this makes the process of independent study more effective. In general, there are many opportunities for independent study of English grammar, and each person can choose the method that suits him. The most important thing is to constantly practice and strengthen your knowledge. In this process, it is very important to be patient and try to achieve your goals.

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