

Teaching grammar: ways and ways

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Halifax

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Goldilocks and the three bears

- Mother bear enquired as to who had been eating her porridge.
- Mummy bear said: “Who’s been eating my porridge?”
- Reported speech? Past perfect continuous? Lexis?

Grammar rules!

- By next Tuesday your overcoat **will have been taken** to Canada by a black cat.
- **Some** thief has stolen my bag!
- **It's** time to go
- She made **it** very clear that she wasn't interested in him
- **Any** bus goes to the beach from that stop
- I can see you **any** day next week
- If you're **going to** buy a house, then you're **going to** need a lot of money
- If you **ate** too much over the holidays, then it's no surprise you've **put** on weight

More its

from: www.lex tutor.ca

- In any case it is by no means clear that
- It is difficult to be certain how the
- In 1961, it is estimated that multiple unit dwellings
- It is expected to be reported
- it is far more fun to create shades in the
- It is hard to blame them for this.
- It is impossible to get a fair trial

'Just'

- 20 vigorous, profitable, and active- this is not just a passing interest or a matter of concern on
- 21 the gunfire, which was so near that it seemed just a piece up the road now, stopped for long
- 22 are scared off by cannon, from City Hall. Just a preliminary measure. If any are left
- 23 no one who can touch her. If the voice is just a shade less glorious than it used to be
- 24 Landesco thought him "just a superior sort of plug ugly"
- 25 the universe is also made of atoms, it is just a supermachine. And this would mean that we
- 26 away, in that thick growth, but she seemed just a trace uncertain; while Jones, on the other
- 27 getting ready for her first communion. It just about blew us both out of the water when
- 28 Then I calculated that a million peas would just about fill a household refrigerator
- 29 and more serious brother, Morris, who was just about her own age and whom she had got to know

<http://www.lex tutor.ca>

Grammaring

- *Diane Larsen-Freeman, Scott Thornbury (the verb to 'grammar')*
- Grammar = syntax and morphology
- We use these to glue thoughts together

Reformulation

You almost certain
 need spend time
very begin course
 orientate self
toward new environment

Original text

You will almost certainly need to spend some time at the very beginning of your course orientating yourself towards your new environment.

*From: Success on your certificate course. Brandt.C.
Sage 2006*

Reformulation

- Last Saturday
- It was raining
- We went for a picnic
- The food got wet
- We went to McDonalds
- We had fish burgers
- They were disgusting
- We all got sick

Reformulated version

Last Saturday, even though it was raining, we decided to go for a picnic. Of course the food got wet and was ruined so we went to McDonalds and had fish burgers which were disgusting. We all got sick.

Original text

Twenty-five year old John Smith, a brick layer from Wimbledon, was badly injured last night while on his way to see his widowed mother in Crewe when a twenty-five-ton lorry coming in the opposite direction went out of control and skidded into his lane on the A36.

Rutherford's propositional cluster task

Kite wind tree boy

A young boy was flying his kite in a field. It was a very windy day and suddenly a particularly strong gust of wind caught his kite and blew it into a tree where it stuck fast. The poor young boy was desolated

Pad it out/beef it up

- The cat sat on the mat
- The fat cat sat on the mat by the fire.
- The big, fat, old, ugly, tabby cat sat snivelling on its master's brand new, Persian, hand-made mat by the roaring coal fire that smelled of autumnal acorns

Passive in discourse

1. Heisenberg was a famous nuclear physicist
 - a. The principle of uncertainty was posited by him.
 - b. He posited the uncertainty principle.

2. Picasso was born in Malaga and lived in Paris.
 - a. Guernica was painted by him in 1936
 - b. He painted Guernica in 1936.

3. The Titanic was considered an unsinkable ship.
 - a. It was hit by an iceberg and sank in two hours.
 - b. An iceberg hit it and sank it in two hours.

4. Napoleon was a French general and Emperor.
 - a. Wellington defeated him at Waterloo.
 - b. He was defeated by Wellington at Waterloo.

Information structure

one

He lives in a beautiful cottage by the sea and walks along the beach each morning. Newhaven on the south coast of England is where the cottage is.

two

He lives in a beautiful cottage by the sea and walks along the beach each morning. The cottage is in Newhaven on the south coast of England.

Lewes bonfire night

Roads in the town are closed, meaning that there are no parking facilities. Those using public transport are likely to find that it is very crowded and that they will have to queue for long periods before arriving in Lewes. The journey home could be even more horrendous. This can be an unpleasant experience, particularly when it is cold or raining - which is likely in November. Lewes Bonfire is a particularly unsuitable event for younger children, who are unlikely to get a view of the celebrations, and who may find the event confusing and frightening. Children in pushchairs and buggies are particularly vulnerable to injury due to the density of the crowds.

ing words

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modality

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Pronoun and article referencing

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Noun phrases

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Grammar and genre

- Narration: stories and jokes
- Reporting: news articles and business reports
- Describing: places and people
- Discursive text: contrast, sequence and opinion, recursion
- Discourse: conversation, negotiation, interaction

Thanks for coming!

I hope these ideas work for you

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