

Contents

Preface to the second edition	vii
Preface to the first edition	ix
1 Introduction: the glamour of grammar	
1.1 Purpose and nature of grammatical description	1
1.2 Standard English and variation	2
1.3 English rules, OK?	5
1.4 Why study English grammar?	7
1.5 English language in the workplace	12
1.6 The branches of linguistics	14
Exercises	15
2 The structure of sentences	
2.1 Introduction	18
2.2 The structure of words	18
2.3 How do we know sentences have structure?	23
2.4 Constituency tests	24
2.5 Three additional tests	33
2.6 Nested constituents	34
2.7 Representing structure	38
2.8 Points to remember	40
Exercises	41
3 The words of English	
3.1 Introduction	43
3.2 The meaning of lexical categories	43
3.3 Structural criteria	44
3.4 Major categories	47
3.5 The minor categories	67
3.6 Phrasal categories and their structure	70
3.7 Points to remember	76
Exercises	77
4 Functions within the clause	
4.1 Introduction	79
4.2 The predicate	80
4.3 The subject	81
4.4 The object	88
4.5 The predicative complement	92
4.6 The adverbial	95
4.7 Trees	100
4.8 Points to remember	103
Exercises	104

5	Different sentence types	
5.1	Introduction	107
5.2	Declaratives	108
5.3	Interrogatives	108
5.4	Imperatives	115
5.5	Exclamatives	119
5.6	Echoes	120
5.7	Trees	122
5.8	Points to remember	125
	Exercises	125
6	The verb phrase	
6.1	The constituency of verb strings	128
6.2	Time and tense	131
6.3	Lexical verbs and auxiliary verbs	133
6.4	Auxiliary verbs	137
6.5	Lexical <i>have, be</i> and <i>do</i>	149
6.6	Classes of lexical verbs	150
6.7	Trees	158
6.8	Points to remember	165
	Exercises	165
7	The noun phrase	
7.1	How to spot a noun phrase	167
7.2	Who's the boss?	168
7.3	Determiners	169
7.4	Pre-modifiers	173
7.5	Pre-determiners	176
7.6	Post-modifiers	177
7.7	Complements	178
7.8	Trees	179
7.9	Points to remember	187
	Exercises	187
8	Clauses within clauses	
8.1	Clauses	189
8.2	Finite sub-clauses	192
8.3	Non-finite clauses	202
8.4	Subjectless clauses	210
8.5	Trees	211
8.6	Points to remember	218
	Exercises	219
9	Beyond the sentence	
9.1	Introduction	221
9.2	Information packaging	221
9.3	Discourse strategies	228
9.4	Points to remember	236
	Exercises	237
10	Grammar at work	
10.1	Introduction	241
10.2	Speech versus writing	242
10.3	E-Speak – somewhere between speech and writing	249
10.4	Occupational varieties	251
10.5	Points to remember	264
	Exercises	265



11 English worldwide	
11.1 Introduction	267
11.2 New Englishes: Indian English	269
11.3 Other Englishes	273
11.4 Variation in the Native Englishes	281
11.5 Vernacular universals	282
11.6 The future of Standard English	284
11.7 Points to remember	286
Exercises	286
Further reading	289
Glossary	294
Index	307