



#10150 THE SPLIT-INFINITIVE WORLD OF ENGLISH GRAMMAR: PROGRAM 1

CEREBELLUM CORPORATION, 2001
Grade Level: 8-13+
26 mins.

DESCRIPTION

What is grammar, and how do we use it? Overviews grammar basics and our use of Standard Edited American English in writing. Moves into three parts of speech—nouns, pronouns, and adjectives. Defines and explains each; covers categories of nouns, types of pronouns, and briefly looks at adjectives. Uses highlighted examples to clarify.

ACADEMIC STANDARDS

Subject Area: Language Arts–Writing

- Standard: Uses grammatical and mechanical conventions in written compositions
 - ◆ Benchmark: Uses nouns in written compositions (e.g., uses plural and singular naming words, forms regular and irregular plurals of nouns, uses common and proper nouns, uses nouns as subjects) (See INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS 1.)
 - ◆ Benchmark: Uses nouns in written compositions (e.g., collective nouns, compound nouns, noun clauses, noun phrases) (See INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS 1.)
 - ◆ Benchmark: Uses pronouns in written compositions (e.g., relative, demonstrative, personal [i.e., possessive, subject, object]) (See INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS 2.)
 - ◆ Benchmark: Uses adjectives in written compositions (e.g., uses descriptive words) (See INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS 3.)

INSTRUCTIONAL GOALS

1. To define singular, plural, common, proper, collective, and compound nouns.
2. To explain personal, possessive and demonstrative pronouns.
3. To illustrate the use of adjectives.

VOCABULARY

1. adjective
2. article
3. edited
4. grammar

C a p t i o n e d M e d i a P r o g r a m

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|-------------------------|----------------|
| 5. noun | 9. punctuation |
| 6. plural | 10. singular |
| 7. possessive (pronoun) | 11. standard |
| 8. pronoun | 12. subject |

BEFORE SHOWING

1. Discuss the value of learning English grammar. List situations where English grammar is important.
2. Discuss grammatical competence for native speakers of English. Consider reasons that native English speakers take English grammar courses.

AFTER SHOWING

Discussion Items and Questions

1. Discuss grammar.
 - a. Define *grammar* and *Standard Edited American English*. Contrast grammar and vocabulary.
 - b. List situations where perfect grammar is not so important and situations where grammatical competence is important.
2. Discuss nouns.
 - a. Define *noun*. Describe and give examples of a noun's number.
 - b. Define the four categories of nouns: common, proper, compound, and collective. Give examples of the three varieties of common nouns.
3. Discuss pronouns.
 - a. Define *pronoun*. Explain how a pronoun refers to a noun.
 - b. Describe three kinds of pronouns: personal, possessive, and demonstrative. Give examples of what possessive and demonstrative pronouns do.
 - c. Give examples of each of the following types of personal subject pronouns: singular, plural, first person singular, second person singular, third person singular, first person plural, second person plural and third person plural.
4. Discuss adjectives.
 - a. What does an adjective do? Where are adjectives usually placed?
 - b. What is an article?
 - c. What is a demonstrative adjective? Compare demonstrative adjectives and demonstrative pronouns.

Applications and Activities

1. Give ten examples of each of the bolded words. Use examples from the video to get started. Give no more than five examples of the italicized words.
 - a. A noun is a **person**, **place**, **thing** or **concept**.
 - b. Nouns have four categories: **common**, **proper**, **compound**, and **collective**.
 - c. Nouns can be singular or plural.
 - d. There are three varieties of compound nouns: **two words**, **two words hyphenated**, and **one BIG word**.
 - e. There are at least three kinds of pronouns: **personal**, **possessive**, and *demonstrative*.

C a p t i o n e d M e d i a P r o g r a m

- f. *Articles* and *demonstrative adjectives* are subcategories of **adjectives**.
2. Write a rough draft of a short paragraph describing the room you are sitting in.
 - a. Highlight and label the nouns, pronouns, and adjectives.
 - b. Use peer feedback to revise and include more types of nouns, pronouns, and adjectives.
3. Compare English adjectives and pronouns to ASL (American Sign Language) adjectives and pronouns.
 - a. Practice the correct sign for each English pronoun.
 - b. Discuss if adjectives precede or follow the noun in ASL.

CMP RELATED RESOURCES

- [The Grammar Key #9207](#)
- [The Split-Infinitive World of English Grammar: Program 2 #10151](#)
- [The Split-Infinitive World of English Grammar: Program 3 #10159](#)

World Wide Web



The following Web sites complement the contents of this guide; they were selected by professionals who have experience in teaching deaf and hard of hearing students. Every effort was made to select accurate, educationally relevant, and “kid safe” sites. However, teachers should preview them before use. The U.S. Department of Education, the National Association of the Deaf, and the Captioned Media Program do not endorse the sites and are not responsible for their content.

• STANDARD DEVIANTS: ENGLISH GRAMMAR

http://standarddeviants.com/pls/brain/cerebellum.show_subject?p_subject_id=20

Includes downloadable tests, interactive quizzes, puzzles, games, and helpful grammar cards.

• THE BLUE BOOK OF GRAMMAR AND PUNCTUATION

<http://www.grammarbook.com/>

This award-winning site created by Jane Strauss includes printable grammar exercises and tests.

• GUIDE TO GRAMMAR AND WRITING

<http://webster.commnet.edu/grammar/>

This searchable site includes in-depth information on word and sentence-level grammar and punctuation. Includes quizzes.