

## SOME IDEAS FOR TEACHING GRAMMAR MORE EFFECTIVELY IN AN EFL CONTEXT

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To many teachers and students alike in an EFL context, learning English often translates into learning grammar. EFL teachers love teaching grammar and EFL students feel that if they aren't learning grammar they are not really learning English. But, are we successful teachers of grammar? Most teachers will answer by saying they would like to be more successful. This session will explore some of the reasons why our students are not learning grammar as well as we would like them to. It will also look at grammar from three different perspectives. Grammar of structure involves the way words and phrases are sequenced to make up larger units. Grammar of orientation deals with how words and phrases are related (oriented) to other elements of the sentence and text, for example past simple vs. present perfect. Finally, grammar of patterns shows us predictable patterns in which words frequently occur. For example, the word "relationship" is often followed by "between noun<sup>1</sup> and noun<sup>2</sup>". Other nouns—agreement, quarrel, and fight—follow a similar pattern. This session will go on to show a framework for effectively teaching these three types of grammar, which includes recognition, system building, and exploration.