

Centre for Continuing Education

English grammar

Celia Hodgson

This course is not always suitable for ESL students. Please consult with Celia before enrolment.

This course covers the main features of grammar, parts of speech, phrases, clauses and sentences, focussing on their practical application in speech and writing. Punctuation and usage are also covered. Students should be able to use grammar correctly and confidently after completing this course. They should be able to explain and/or justify the grammar of a spoken or written text, for example, that a sentence is incomplete because it lacks a verb or that splitting an infinitive is warranted. Students should also be able to make informed decisions about the use of punctuation and appropriate usage in their own speaking and writing.

English Grammar is a lively and accessible course for adult students who wish to learn about grammar in theory and practice or to hone their skills.

The course looks at how language works, covering the main features of grammar from parts of speech to phrases, clauses, and sentences. It also covers punctuation. A focus of the course is the practical application of grammar in speech and writing. Modern usage and expression is one strand that generates much discussion, debate and dispute!

There is no set text for the course, although a wide and diverse range of print, audio and electronic media sources is used to add interest and point to the content. Suggested reading will be advised regularly. Exercises on each section of the course will be completed in class and at home. Students are encouraged to raise any specific questions that they may have to do with grammar, punctuation or usage. Their own contributions, particularly if they speak or know another language, are a valuable part of the course. Equally important are their experiences of spoken and written practice in the workplace since these demonstrate grammar in action.

Students of *English Grammar* find it enjoyable because everyone has experience of, and often strong opinions about, grammar and language. The course also gives students an opportunity to deepen their knowledge and understanding of one of the fundamentals to being a good speaker and writer.

Celia has degrees in English, languages and art history. She was a languages teacher for more than 20 years at secondary school and college level as well as to adults in Australia and overseas. In 2002-3 Celia taught English to college students in Nara, Japan. Since 2003 she has presented courses in English Grammar for the CCE as well as coaching private students in grammar and writing skills.

"The views expressed in this course/activity are those of the presenter and do not necessarily represent the views of The Australian National University"

The Australian National University

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Centre for Continuing Education

DATES/TIMES: 6-8pm on 9 Thursdays from 16 October

FEE: \$269

COURSE LOCATION: The venue for this course can be found on your tax invoice/receipt under "Course Information". Please allow enough time to find the venue on the first evening.

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