

Approaches & Strategies to Make Grammar Interesting

A quick-reference guide for planning grammar lessons that actually stick.

Grammar exists to help people *do* things with language, not to be memorised as a list of rules. A good lesson starts from **function** — what are we trying to say or do — before naming the formal rule behind it.

The 9+1 Grammar Teaching Approaches

Reusable methods — none tied to a single topic. The same technique for tenses works just as well for articles or sentence types.

APPROACH	QUICK CLASSROOM EXAMPLE
Explicit Instruction	Teach present/past/future tense with structured drills.
Contextualized Learning	Spot verb patterns inside a short story or article.
Communicative Approach	Pairs give & follow directions using imperatives + prepositions.
Task-Based Learning	Frame classroom rules as if you were the principal.
Error Correction	Spot-the-error handout on subject-verb agreement.
Inductive Approach	Analyze example sentences to derive a/an/the rules.
Collaborative Learning	Pairs write dialogues using reported speech, then peer-edit.
Technology-Assisted Learning	Interactive online exercises with instant feedback.
Authentic Language Use	Analyze conditionals/phrasal verbs in a song's lyrics.
Multisensory Approaches	Gestures, visuals & songs to teach sentence word order.

11-Step Lesson-Planning Checklist

#	STAGE	WHAT TO DO
1	Objective	Pin down the exact grammar concept or skill.
2	Prior Knowledge	Quick review/pre-check to surface what students already know.
3	Materials	Pick resources matched to level: texts, worksheets, media.
4	Warm-Up	Short activity to activate prior knowledge & set context.
5	Introduce	Present the concept clearly — visuals, examples, chunked steps.
6	Guided Practice	Structured exercises with teacher support & monitoring.
7	Interactive Practice	Pair/group work, role-plays, games — apply it meaningfully.
8	Feedback	Correct errors, explain reasoning, encourage self-correction.

#	STAGE	WHAT TO DO
9	Independent Practice	Worksheets or tasks students complete solo.
10	Wrap-Up	Recap key points; quick consolidation activity.
11	Extension	Homework or creative tasks for further practice.

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