

GRAMMATICAL ELEMENTS,

COMPREHENSIVE THEORY

OF

ENGLISH GRAMMAR

INTENDED FOR THE USE OF
CHILDREN OF BOTH SEXES.

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Language."

Grammar is the Portress of the Sciences.

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M D C C X C I I I.

GRAMMATICAL ELEMENTS.

GRAMMAR.

THE English language contains ten parts of speech ; viz. the *Article, Noun, Pronoun, Adjective, Verb, Participle, Adverb, Preposition, Conjunction, and Interjection.*

THE ARTICLE,

Is a word, placed before a noun, and limits its signification.

There are two articles, in the English language, *a* and *the*. *A* is prefixed to nouns, that begin with a consonant ; as, *a chair*. When a word begins with a vowel, or silent *h*, we use *an*, to make the pronunciation more fluent ; as, *an ax, an hour*.

A is the indefinite article ; and is used before a noun, in its most extensive
tenfive

tensive meaning; as, *a daughter*; that is, *any daughter*.

The is the definite article; and, when placed before a noun, confines the meaning to some individual person, or thing; as, *the boy*.

Articles are not used before nouns, when they comprehend a whole species, or kind; as, *man, fish, cattle*.

A N O U N,

Is the name of any thing, that has existence; as, *spirit, air, rock*.

In the division of nouns, we say, that one is *common*; and another is *proper*. Proper nouns are the names of gods, men, kingdoms, cities, towns, rivers, &c. As, *Juno, Peter, England, London, Boston, Merrimac*.

Common nouns are applied to whole species; as, *grass, water*.

The article, *the*, before a proper name, converts it into a proper noun; as, *the Cushings*.

NUMBER,

N U M B E R,

Is the distinction of *one* from *many*. In this distinction, we use the singular, and plural, number. The singular number comprehends *one* only; as, *pen*. The plural number comprehends more than *one*; as, *pens*.

The plural number is, generally, formed, by adding *s* to the singular; as, *stone, stones*. To this rule, however, there are many exceptions; as, *man, men*; *ox, oxen*; *mouse, mice*; *goose, geese*; *criterion, criteria*; *antithesis, antitheses*; *seraph, seraphim*; *shelf, shelves*; *lady, ladies*. All nouns, that come under the above description, are irregular.

The metaphorical use of proper names, admits the plural number; as, *the Wentworths*.

Many nouns are the same, in both numbers; as, *sheep, deer*.

Nouns, that signify the names of virtues, and vices, and appetites,

have no plural number ; as, *generosity, stinginess, thirst*. The following nouns have no plural number: *wheat, rye, barley, corn, milk, butter, wax, beer, honey*.

There are many nouns, that have no singular number ; as, *annals, bowels, breeches, entrails, snuffers, filings, prisons, tidings, goods, embers, ashes, thanks, &c.*

G E N D E R,

Is the distinction of nouns into their different kinds ; which are *masculine, feminine, and neuter*.

A noun, that is neither masculine, nor feminine, belongs to the neuter gender ; that is, it is of no gender, or sex. Of this kind are all things without life.

The masculine gender denotes *males* ; as, *man* ; and the feminine gender denotes *females* ; as, *girl*.

All living creatures, whose sex is not determined, belong to the neuter gender ; as, *fly, toad, worm, &c.*

The

The gender of some nouns is known by their different terminations ; as, *abbot, abbess ; count, countess ; doctor, doctress ; duke, dutchess ; heir, heiress ; patron, patroness ; poet, poetess ; traitor, traitress ; deacon, deaconess ; executor, executrix ; administrator, administratrix ; testator, testatrix.*

Others distinguish their gender, by the addition of another word ; as, *men singers, women singers.* Some take a personal pronoun ; as, *he goat, she goat.* And the gender of other nouns is known by different words ; as, *batchelor, maid ; brother, sister ; drake, duck ; boy, girl ; gander, goose.*

THE CASES,

In English, are three only : the *nominative*, the *possessive*, and *objective*.

The nominative case is the agent ; the possessive, formed by the addition of *s*, denotes property ; and the objective

jective expresses the object, on which an action terminates.

When a noun ends in *es*, or *fs*, the possessive case is formed, by the addition of an apostrophe only; as, on *eagles' wings*.

DECLENSION.

	<i>Sing.</i>	<i>Plur.</i>	<i>Sing.</i>	<i>Plur.</i>
N.	Poet	Poets	Poetefs	Poeteffes
P.	Poet's	Poets'	Poetefs'	Poeteffes'
O.	Poet	Poets	Poetefs	Poeteffes.

A PRONOUN,

Is a word that is used in lieu of a noun, and implies the name of the person, or thing, to which it refers.

When a person speaks of himself, he says, *I*; when he speaks to a second person, he says *thou*; when he speaks to a third person, he says, *he*, or *she*. There are, consequently, three personal pronouns; *I*, *thou*, *he*, or *she*.

It, is sometimes used as a person-

al pronoun : For it may be applied to any being whatever.

To pronouns belong *person, gender, number, and case.*

DECLENSION.

First Person.		Second Person.	
<i>Sing.</i>	<i>Plur.</i>	<i>Sing.</i>	<i>Plur.</i>
N. I	We	Thou*	You†
P. Mine	ours	thine	yours
O. Me	us.	thee	you.

Third Person.

<i>Singular.</i>			<i>Plural.</i>
<i>Mas.</i>	<i>Fem.</i>	<i>Neut.</i>	<i>All genders.</i>
N. He	She	It	They
P. his	hers	its	theirs
O. him	her	it	them.

	<i>Sing.</i>	<i>Plur.</i>
N. and O.	This	These
N. and O.	that	those
N. and O.	one	ones
P.	one's.	ones'.

Sing.

* *Thou* is the solemn stile. † *You* is the familiar stile.

	<i>Sing.</i>	<i>Plur.</i>
N. and O.	Another,	Other or others
P.	another's, others'	

Singular and Plural.

Nom.	Pos.	Obj.
Who,	Who's,	Whom
whoever,	whoever,	whomever
whosoever,	whosoever,	whomsoever
which,	whose,	which
whichever,		whichever
whatever,		whatever

Self, plur. *selves*, is a substantive noun; and when connected with pronouns, is thus declined.

	<i>Sing.</i>	<i>Plur.</i>
N.	Himself	Theirselfes
O.	himself	themselves
N. and O.	myself	
N. and O.	thyself	
N. and O.	ourself	ourselves
N. and O.	yourself	yourselves.

Pronouns are divided into personal, relative, demonstrative, interrogative, definitive and adjective.

Of personal pronouns we have already treated. A *relative* pronoun refers to some antecedent person, thing, or sentence; as, this is the man, *whom* I saw, at court.

Who, *which*, and *what*, are often used as relatives. When they ask questions, they are used as interrogatives. *Who* ever refers to persons; and *which*, to things. *That* and *what*, frequently, include both the antecedent and relative.

This, *these*, refer to the last thing mentioned; and *that*, *those*, refer to a former thing, and sometimes to a thing at a greater distance.

This, *that*, *some*, *none*, *one*, *other*, are definitive pronouns; and *either*, *each* and *every*, are distributive.

My *thy*, *her*, *their*, *your*, *own*, *our*, are pronouns possessive. When the noun, with which they are connected, in sense, is understood, they become *mine*, *thine*, *hers*, *theirs*, *yours*, *ours*.

None

None is a negative pronoun. It should, never, be used, in the plural form, for it simply means *no one person, or thing.*

ADJECTIVES,

Are words, that convey to us the idea of the inherent qualities, or circumstantial accidents, of *things, actions, and persons*; as, a *good man*; *excellent wine.*

An adjective, standing alone, does not make sense. It must, ever, be connected with a noun; as, a *good*, is nonsense; a *good man*, is sense.

Adjectives have no gender, case, nor number; but may be joined to nouns under any description.

And, they have no different endings; except in the degrees of comparison; of which there are two only; the *comparative*, and *superlative*. As, *better, best.* *Good* is the positive state, expressing the simple quality of a person, or thing, with-
out

out increasing, or decreasing, its excellence. When I say of an *apple*, it is *good*, I do not affirm, that it is *better*, or *worse*, than another *apple*.

Adjectives are thus formed :

<i>Pos.</i>	<i>Com.</i>	<i>Super.</i>
black,	blacker,	blackest.
white,	whiter,	whitest.

It hence appears, that the two degrees of comparison are formed, by the addition of *r*, or *er*, and *st*, or *est*, to the positive state.

In forming the degrees of comparison of adjectives of more than one syllable, elegance demands the use of *more* and *most*.

<i>Pos.</i>	<i>Com.</i>	<i>Super.</i>
Humane,	more humane,	most hu- [mane.

Many adjectives, in forming their degrees of comparison, deviate from the preceding rules; and are, consequently, called irregular.

<i>Pos.</i>	<i>Com.</i>	<i>Super.</i>
Good,	better,	best.
bad, ill, evil,	worse,	worst.
little,	less,	least.
fore,	former,	first.
many,	more,	most.

Adjectives of number, as, *one, two,* of order, *first, second, &c.* and those, to whose meaning there can be no addition, will not admit the degrees of comparison; as, *chief, perfect, extreme, eternal, &c.*

V E R B S

Denote the *being* and *acting* of persons and things. And they are divided into two kinds; *active* and *neuter*.

If a verb express an action, that terminates on some object, it may be called an active verb; as, *I love him.* If no action pass from the verb to an object, the verb is neuter, as, *we are, they stand.*

To

To verbs belong, *number, person, mode and time.*

Verbs have two numbers; the *singular and plural*; *I write, we write.*

In conformity to the agent, or nominative word, verbs admit three persons, in both numbers. As, Sing. *I love, thou lovest, he loves.* Plur. *We love, you love, they love.*

As there are different ways of expressing *being and acting*, so verbs are divided into five modes; *the indicative, the imperative, the potential, conjunctive, and infinitive.*

The simple indication of an action puts the verb, in *the indicative mode*, as, *I am, we learn.*

When a command is given to another person, the verb is in *the imperative mode*; as, *fear God.*

In forming the potential mode, we make use of *may, must, might, can, could, should, and would.* These

are

are expressive of *duty, obligation, liberty, power, and disposition*. Of disposition ; as, *I would learn* : Of power ; as, *I can learn*. Of liberty ; as, *I may learn*. Of duty and obligation ; as, *I must learn*.

All uncertain, or conditional, actions are expressed, by verbs, in *the conjunctive mode* ; as, *If I be, if thou wert*.

A verb, in its unlimited signification, is used in *the infinitive mode* ; as, *to love*.

As time is ever moving, and as things *past* or *future*, are at different removes from each other, so the English language admits *six times, or senses*, to express the *past, present, or future*, existence of actions : The *present time, the imperfect time, the perfect time, the pluperfect time, the first future time, and the second future time*.

An action now doing is in *the present time* ; as, *he reads*.

An action, that passed, while something else was doing, is in *the imperfect time*; as, *Betsy learned her lesson, while Polly played.*

An action that is perfectly finished, is in *the perfect time*; as, *he has learned his lesson.*

When priority of time is expressed, or understood, in the same sentence, the verb, that expresses the priority of action, is put in *the pluperfect time*; as, *Billy had learned his lesson, before the bell rung for dinner.*

An action to be done hereafter, puts the verb in *the first future time*; as, *they will learn.*

An action, that will be finished, when some future event will be present, puts the verb in *the second future time*; as, *they will have finished their task, when the sun goes down.*

There are three participles; the *present*, the *perfect*, and *past*; as, *Pres. moving*; *Per. moved*; *Past, having moved.*

There is a number of verbs, called *helping verbs*, that are used in forming the different *modes* and *times*: They are the following; *shall, will, can, might, must, may, should, could, would, have, do, and 'be.*

Be, do, and have, are sometimes used as principal verbs; as, *I be*; *we do* our duty; *he has* a book.

Let the young learner commit to memory, the following conjugation of

A R E G U L A R V E R B.

INDICATIVE MODE.

Present time.

Sing. I move, thou movest, he moves.* *Plur.* We move, you move, they move. Or,

Sing. I do move, thou dost move, he does move. *Plur.* We do move, you do move, they do move.

Imperfect

* In the solemn stile, the ending of the third person singular, *present* time, is ever in *eth.*

Imperfect time.

Sing. I moved, thou movedst, he moved. *Plur.* We moved, you moved, they moved. Or,

Sing. I did move, thou didst move, he did move. *Plur.* We did move, you did move, they did move.

Perfect time.

Sing. I have moved, thou hast moved, he has moved. *Plur.* We have moved, you have moved, they have moved.

Pluperfect time.

Sing. I had moved, thou hadst moved, he had moved. *Plur.* We had moved, you had moved, they had moved.

First Future.

Sing. I shall move, thou shalt move, he shall move. *Plur.* We shall move, you shall move, they shall move.

Second Future.

Sing. I shall have moved, thou shalt

shalt have moved, he shall have moved. *Plur.* We shall have moved, you shall have moved, they shall have moved.

In forming the *first* and *second*, *future times* of this mode, the verb is, frequently, combined with the helping verb, *will*; as, I *will* move, thou *will* move, &c.

IMPERATIVE MODE.

Present time.

Sing. Move, move thou, or do thou move. *Plur.* Move, move you, or do you move.

POTENTIAL MODE.

Present time.

Sing. I can move, thou canst move, he can move. *Plur.* We can move, you can move, they can move.

Imperfect time.

Sing. I could move, thou couldst move, he could move. *Plur.* We could

could move, you could move, they could move.

N. B. *Perfect time* is wanting.

Pluperfect time.

Sing. I could have moved, thou couldst have moved, he could have moved. *Plur.* We could have moved, you could have moved, they could have moved.

N. B. *The Future times* are wanting.

The helping verbs, *may*, *must*, *might*, *should* and *would*, are used, in the formation of all regular verbs, in the potential mode ; as, I *may* move, &c. I *must* move, &c. I *might* move, &c. I *should* move, &c. I *would* move, &c.

The instructor should be at some pains in teaching his pupils these several combinations.

CONJUNCTIVE MODE.

Present time.

Sing. If I move, if thou move, if he move. *Plur.* If we move, if you move, if they move.

Imperfect

Imperfect time.

Sing. If I moved, if thou moved, if he moved. *Plur.* If we moved, if you moved, if they moved.

Perfect time.

Sing. If I have moved, if thou have moved, if he have moved. *Plur.* If we have moved, if you have moved, if they have moved.

Pluperfect time.

Sing. If I had moved, if thou had moved, if he had moved. *Plur.* If we had moved, if you had moved, if they had moved.

First Future.

Sing. If I shall move, if thou shall move, if he shall move. *Plur.* If we shall move, if you shall move, if they shall move.

Second Future.

Sing. If I shall have moved, if thou shall have moved, if he shall have moved. *Plur.* If we shall have moved, if you shall have moved, if they shall have moved.

Pluperfect time.

Sing. I had been, thou hadst been, he had been. *Plur.* We had been, you had been, they had been.

First Future.

Sing. I shall be, thou shalt be, he shall be. *Plur.* We shall be, you shall be, they shall be.

Second Future.

Sing. I shall have been, thou shalt have been, he shall have been.

Plur. We shall have been, you shall have been, they shall have been.

IMPERATIVE MODE.

Sing. Be, be thou, or do thou be.

Plur. Be, be you, or do you be.

POTENTIAL MODE.

Present time.

Sing. I can be, thou canst be, he can be. *Plur.* We can be, you can be, they can be.

Imperfect time.

Sing. I could be, thou couldst be,
he

he could be. *Plur.* We could be, you could be, they could be.

N. B. *Perfect time* is wanting.

Pluperfect time.

Sing. I could have been, thou couldst have been, he could have been. *Plur.* We could have been, you could have been, they could have been.

N. B. The *Future times* are wanting.

CONJUNCTIVE MODE.

Present time.

Sing. If I be, if thou be, if he be.

Plur. If we be, if you be, if they be.

Imperfect time.

Sing. If I were, if thou wert, if he were. *Plur.* If we were, if you were, if they were.

Perfect time.

Sing. If I have been, if thou have been, if he have been. *Plur.* If we have been, if you have been, if they have been.

C

Pluperfect

Pluperfect time.

Sing. If I had been, if thou had been, if he had been. *Plur.* If we had been, if you had been, if they had been.

First Future.

Sing. If I shall be, if thou shall be, if he shall be. *Plur.* If we shall be, if you shall be, if they shall be.

Second Future.

Sing. If I shall have been, if thou shall have been, if he shall have been. *Plur.* If we shall have been, if you shall have been, if they shall have been.

INFINITIVE MODE.

Present To be ;
Past To have been.

PARTICIPLES.

Pres. Being ; *Per.* been ; *Past,* having been.

The verb, TO DO, is thus conjugated :

INDICATIVE

INDICATIVE MODE.

Present time.

Sing. I do, thou dost, he does.*

Plur. We do, you do, they do.

Imperfect time.

Sing. I did, thou didst,* he did.

Plur. We did, you did, they did.

Perfect time.

Sing. I have done, thou hast done, he has done. *Plur.* We have done, you have done, they have done.

Pluperfect time.

Sing. I had done, thou hadst done, he had done. *Plur.* We had done, you had done, they had done.

First Future.

Sing. I shall do, thou shalt do, he shall do. *Plur.* We shall do, you shall do, they shall do.

Second Future.

Sing. I shall have done, thou shalt have done, he shall have done. *Plur.* We shall have done, you shall have done, they shall have done.

IMPERATIVE

* The solemn title is *dost*,

IMPERATIVE MODE.

Sing. Do, do thou, *or* do thou do.

Plur. Do, do you, *or* do you do.

POTENTIAL MODE.

Present time.

Sing. I can do, thou canst do, he can do. *Plur.* We can do, you can do, they can do.

Imperfect time.

Sing. I could do, thou couldst do, he could do. *Plur.* We could do, you could do, they could do.

N. B. *Perfect time* is wanting.

Pluperfect time.

Sing. I could have done, thou couldst have done, he could have done. *Plur.* We could have done, you could have done, they could have done.

CONJUNCTIVE MODE.

Present time.

Sing. If I do, if thou do, if he do.

Plur. If we do, if you do, if they

do

Imperfect

Imperfect time.

Sing. If I did, if thou did, if he did. *Plur.* If we did, if you did, if they did.

Perfect time.

Sing. If I have done, if thou have done, if he have done. *Plur.* If we have done, if you have done, if they have done.

Pluperfect time.

Sing. If I had done, if thou had done, if he had done. *Plur.* If we had done, if you had done, if they had done.

First Future.

Sing. If I shall do, if thou shall do, if he shall do. *Plur.* If we shall do, if you shall do, if they shall do.

Second Future.

Sing. If I shall have done, if thou shall have done, if he shall have done. *Plur.* If we shall have done, if you shall have done, if they shall have done.

INFINITIVE MODE.

Present To do;*Past* To have done.

PARTICIPLES.

Pres. Doing; *Per.* done; *Past,*
having done.The verb, **TO HAVE**, is thus
conjugated :

INDICATIVE MODE.

Present time.

Sing. I have, thou hast, he has.**Plur.* We have, you have, they have.

Imperfect time.

Sing. I had, thou hadst, he had.*Plur.* We had, you had, they had.

Perfect time.

Sing. I have had, thou hast had,
he has had. *Plur.* We have had,
you have had, they have had.

Pluperfect time.

Sing. I had had, thou hadst had,
he had had. *Plur.* We had had, you
had had, they had had.

First

* It makes *hath*, in the solemn style.

First Future.

Sing. I shall have, thou shalt have, he shall have. *Plur.* We shall have, you shall have, they shall have.

Second Future.

Sing. I shall have had, thou shalt have had, he shall have had. *Plur.* We shall have had, you shall have had, they shall have had.

IMPERATIVE MODE.

Sing. Have, have thou, or do thou have. *Plur.* Have, have you, or do you have.

POTENTIAL MODE.

Present time.

Sing. I can have, thou canst have, he can have. *Plur.* We can have, you can have, they can have.

Imperfect time.

Sing. I could have, thou couldst have, he could have. *Plur.* We could have, you could have, they could have.

N. B. *Perfect time* is wanting.

Pluperfect

Pluperfect time.

Sing. I could have had, thou couldst have had, he could have had. *Plur.* We could have had, you could have had, they could have had.

CONJUNCTIVE MODE.

Present time.

Sing. If I have, if thou have, if he have. *Plur.* If we have, if you have, if they have.

Imperfect time.

Sing. If I had, if thou had, if he had. *Plur.* If we had, if you had, if they had.

Perfect time.

Sing. If I have had, if thou have had, if he have had. *Plur.* If we have had, if you have had, if they have had.

Pluperfect time.

Sing. If I had had, if thou had had, if he had had. *Plur.* If we had had, if you had had, if they had had.

First

First Future.

Sing. If I shall have, if thou shall have, if he shall have. *Plur.* It we shall have, if you shall have, if they shall have.

Second Future.

Sing. If I shall have had, if thou shall have had, if he shall have had. *Plur.* If we shall have had, if you shall have had, if they shall have had.

INFINITIVE MODE.

Present To have;
Past To have had.

PARTICIPLES.

Pres. Having ; *Per.* had ; *Past,* having had.

IRREGULAR VERBS

CONJUGATED.

All *irregular verbs* may be conjugated, according to the following example.

INDICATIVE

INDICATIVE MODE.

Present time.

Sing. I see, thou seest, he sees.*

Plur. We see, you see, they see.

Imperfect time.

Sing. I saw, thou sawest, he saw.

Plur. We saw, you saw, they saw.

Perfect time.

Sing. I have seen, thou hast seen, he has seen. *Plur.* We have seen, you have seen, they have seen.

Pluperfect time.

Sing. I had seen, thou hadst seen, he had seen. *Plur.* We had seen, you had seen, they had seen.

First Future.

Sing. I shall see, thou shalt see, he shall see. *Plur.* We shall see, you shall see, they shall see.

Second Future.

Sing. I shall have seen, thou shalt have seen, he shall have seen. *Plur.* We shall have seen, you shall have seen, they shall have seen.

IMPERATIVE

* In the solemn style, it ends in *eth*.

IMPERATIVE MODE.

Sing. See, see thou, or do thou see. *Plur.* See, see you, or do you see.

POTENTIAL MODE.

Present time.

Sing. I can see, thou canst see, he can see. *Plur.* We can see, you can see, they can see.

Imperfect time.

Sing. I could see, thou couldst see, he could see. *Plur.* We could see, you could see, they could see.

N. B. *Perfect time* is wanting.

Pluperfect time.

Sing. I could have seen, thou couldst have seen, he could have seen. *Plur.* We could have seen, you could have seen, they could have seen.

CONJUNCTIVE MODE.

Present time.

Sing. If I see, if thou see, if he see. *Plur.* If we see, if you see, if they see.

Imperfect

Imperfect time.

Sing. If I saw, if thou saw, if he saw. *Plur.* If we saw, if you saw, if they saw.

Perfect time.

Sing. If I have seen, if thou have seen, if he have seen. *Plur.* If we have seen, if you have seen, if they have seen.

Pluperfect time.

Sing. If I had seen, if thou had seen, if he had seen. *Plur.* If we had seen, if you had seen, if they had seen.

First Future.

Sing. If I shall see, if thou shall see, if he shall see. *Plur.* If we shall see, if you shall see, if they shall see.

Second Future.

Sing. If I shall have seen, if thou shall have seen, if he shall have seen. *Plur.* If we shall have seen, if you shall have seen, if they shall have seen.

INFINITIVE MODE.

Pres. To see

Pafs. To have seen.

PARTICIPLES.

Pres. Seeing; *Per.* seen; *Pafs.* having seen.

Attention to the preceding conjugation, will convince, that these phrases : *I have drove* ; *I have forsook* ; *I have got* ; *I have rode* ; *I have chose* ; *I have spoke* ; *I have wrote*, are very improper and ungrammatical.

Passive verbs are not used in the English language. The verb, *To be*, in its different conjugations, combined with *participles* of the past time, forms what answers to passive verbs, in other languages. As, *they are conquered* ; *thou art instructed* ; *he is beaten* ; *you have been called*.

The verb, *let*, is not, as grammarians have supposed, a sign only of the *imperative mode*. It is of itself,

D

a principal

a principal verb; and when it signifies *permission*, it puts the verb, that immediately follows it, in the *infinitive mode*.

A regular verb, makes the imperfect time, and participle of the past time in *ed*. All verbs that differ from this rule, are irregular, and may be separated into three distinct classes.

The FIRST CLASS

Makes *the present time, the imperfect time, and the participle alike*.

<i>Present</i>	<i>imper.</i>	<i>part.</i>
Cast	cast	cast
cut	cut	cut
burst	burst	burst
hurt	hurt	hurt
let	let	let
set	set	set
thrust	thrust	thrust
wet	wet	wet

The

The SECOND CLASS,
 Makes the imperfect time and participle alike.

<i>Pres.</i>	<i>im. and part.</i>
Abide	abode
befeech	besought
bind	bound
catch	caught
deal	dealt
feel	felt
keep	kept
think	thought

THIRD CLASS.

<i>Pres.</i>	<i>imper.</i>	<i>part.</i>
Begin	began	begun
bid	bade	bidden
bite	bit	bitten
blow	blew	blown
break	brake	broken
chide	chode	chidden
choose	chose	chosen
cleave	clave	cloven
come	came	come
do	did	done
		draw

<i>Pres.</i>	<i>imper.</i>	<i>part.</i>
draw	drew	drawn
drink	drank	drunken
drive	drove	driven
eat	ate	eaten
freeze	froze	frozen
give	gave	given
know	knew	known
lie	lay	lain
shake	shook	shaken
smite	smote	smitten
speak	spake	spoken
see	saw	seen
write	wrote	written

The general tendency of the English verbs, is to the irregular kind. Critical attention to the best writers and speakers, with some degree of practice, will furnish the learner with skilfulness in their several uses and formations.

PARTICIPLES

Are derived from verbs, and they have the nature of verbs, nouns,
and

and adjectives. Their termination is ever in *t*, *d*, *n*, or *ing*. From the verbs, *move*, *catch*, and *see*, are formed, *moving*, *moved*, *caught*, and *seen*.

Some participles have the degrees of comparison : As,

<i>Pos.</i>	<i>Com.</i>	<i>Super.</i>
Learned,	more learned,	most learned.

The different manner, in which participles are used, renders their *syntax* very difficult. The young learner ought, therefore, to make their rules of agreement and government familiar to his mind.

A D V E R B S

Are words, that are used to qualify verbs, adjectives, participles, and adverbs. In general, they are formed, by the addition of *ly*. to an adjective ; as, *generous*, *generously* ; *fine*, *finely*.

Some adverbs are varied, in forming the degrees of comparison.

<i>Pos.</i>	<i>Com.</i>	<i>Super.</i>
Often	oftener	oftenest
Soon	sooner	soonest.

Many adverbs admit *more*, and *most*, to form their degrees of comparison.

<i>Pos.</i>	<i>Com.</i>	<i>Super.</i>
Wisely,	more wisely,	most wisely.

Two negative adverbs make a positive; as, he will *not never* do it. The meaning is, *he will* do it.

PREPOSITIONS

Are ever placed before nouns and pronouns, in the objective case. They are used to determine the connection between words and sentences.

When two prepositions are used together, the first puts on the nature of an adverb, as, he went *up to* the top of the hill.

CONJUNCTIONS

Connect nouns, verbs, and sentences together; and they are either *conjunctive*, or *disjunctive*.

The *conjunctive* joins words and sentences together, and continues the sense ; as, Tom, *and* Peter, *and* John went to Boston.

The *disjunctive* connects words and sentences ; but expresses opposition in the sense ; as, "The simple inherit folly ; *but* the prudent are crowned with knowledge."

INTERJECTIONS

Are words, that express the sudden emotions and passions of the mind ; as, *sic ! pho ! pshaw ! alas ! hey day ! U !*

S Y N T A X.

IN this part of grammar, we shall teach the agreement and government of words ; to do which is the proper business of *syntax*. And that the learner may understand the connection between words, and the influence, that one word has upon another, it is necessary that he attend to the subsequent rules.

RULE

RULE I. The nominative case governs the verb ; as, *thou learnest, he writes.*

REMARKS. -1. By this rule is meant, that the nominative case requires the verb to be of the same number and person with the word that is the agent, or actor.

2. To find the governing agent, or actor, to a verb, ask the question, *who ? which ? what ?*

RULE II. The verb agrees, in number and person, with the nominative case ; as, *thou speakest ; he speaks.*

REMARKS.—1. The plural pronoun *you*, is, in familiar style, applied to an individual person ; but the verb should, ever, be in the plural number ; as, *you were taught ; not you was taught.*

2. A whole sentence is, often, used as the nominative case to a verb ; as, *that industry is the path to glory, is a plain truth.*

3. There are no impersonal verbs

in the English language. *It rains ; it is warm ; it thunders,* have, improperly, been considered as impersonal verbs.

RULE III. Neuter verbs may govern either a nominative, or objective, case ; as, *I am he ; Tom struts a soldier ; it becomes them to conduct better.*

REMARKS.—1. The verb, *To be,* in its different *modes, tenses,* and *persons,* has always a nominative case after it ; except when it is used in the infinitive mode : In this mode, it ever has an objective case after it. *As, I took it to be him.*

2. When an objective case precedes any neuter verb, in the infinitive mode, the noun, or pronoun, that immediately follows the verb, is ever in the objective ; as, *the father gave his sons opportunity to become wise men.*

RULE IV. A neuter verb, between two nominative cases of different

ferent numbers, must agree, in number and person, with the first; as, "*words are wind.*"

RULE V. An address to a person puts the noun, or pronoun, in the nominative independent; as, *Sir, Master, Col.*

RULE VI. Pronouns and adjectives agree with their nouns, in number; as, *a good man; these girls.*

REMARKS.—1. Possessive pronouns are, often, used in an absolute sense; as, *this is their's.*

2. And, sometimes, nouns are used in the possessive case absolute; as, *this army is the king's.*

RULE VII. Two, or more, nouns, in the singular number, joined by a conjunctive conjunction, must have their verb, pronoun, and noun, in the plural. As, *PITT and NECKER were famous politicians.*

REMARKS.—1. If several nouns of different numbers are connected with *and*, the verb must be in the plural

plural number; as, *the General and his soldiers were taken.*

2. If several nouns, in the singular, are connected by disjunctive conjunctions, the verb must be in the singular number; as, *neither honour, nor money, makes a man happy.*

RULE VIII. A noun of multitude may have a verb and pronoun, either in the singular, or plural, number; as, *the flock is, or are, dispersed.*

REMARKS.—1. A noun of multitude, preceded by the indefinite article *a*, or *an*, ever governs the verb, in the singular number; as, *an army was conquered.*

2. Many nouns, having a plural termination, do, notwithstanding, demand a singular verb; as, “*the wages of sin is death.*”

3. When number, or quantity, is used in the abstract sense, the verb must be in the singular number; as, *the quantity of fish is great.*

RULE

RULE IX. The relative agrees with its antecedent, in number, gender, and person; as, the *man*, who wrote the book.

RULE X. If there be no nominative between the relative and the verb, the relative is used as the nominative to the verb; as, the boy, *that is* diligent in his studies, will make a scholar.

RULE XI. If a nominative come between the relative and the verb, the relative is governed by the verb, or some other word, on which it depends; as, the poem, *which* he made is good; *whose* pen is this?

RULE XII. Several nouns, meaning the same thing, are in apposition, and in the same case; as, *Jesus Christ*, the *Saviour* of the world.

REMARK.—A pronoun is often put in apposition to a preceding noun; as, *Washington*, *he*, who led to independence, is the boast of *America*.

RULE XIII. Two nouns coming together, meaning different things, and expressing property, will have the first in the possessive case; as, *John's knife*.

REMARKS.—1. Every possessive case has a noun, either expressed or understood; as, this is my *brother's*; that is, my *brother's* book.

2. Two nouns, in apposition, may be, elegantly, put in the possessive case; as, "Mr. *PITT's*, the *Secretary's*, speech on the war with France."

RULE XIV. The active verb governs the noun, or pronoun, in the objective case; as, fear *God*, and serve *him*.

REMARKS.—1. An active verb, frequently, takes two objective words, one the person, and the other the thing; as, he taught *them* *logick*.

2. And, sometimes an active verb may govern two nouns, in the objective case, both of them expressing things;

things ; as, he endeavoured to teach his *pupils* a proper *pronunciation*.

RULE XV. A verb, in the infinitive mode, may be governed by a preceding verb, a noun, or an adjective ; as, they *learn to read* ; he has a *desire to see her* ; he is *ambitious to behave well*.

REMARKS.—1. Verbs, that immediately follow *bid, dare, fell, have, hear, let, make, need, and see,* are used, in the infinitive, without the sign *to*.

2. A verb, often governs a noun in the objective, and another verb in the infinitive ; as, the general, by his example, *encouraged his soldiers to endure fatigue*.

RULE XVI. The word, that answers the question, must be in the same case of the noun, and tense of the verb, with the word that asks the question ; as, *who talks ? Answer, he.*

RULE XVII. A verb in the infinitive,

infinitive, and sometimes a part of a sentence, is the nominative case to a verb ; as, *to behave well is the glory of man ; the army plundering the city was the cause of dissipation.*

RULE XVIII. Verbs are, frequently, put in the infinitive mode independent ; as, “ *to think wisely, at this time of day, we must not always think with philosophers.* ”

RULE XIX. Prepositions govern the objective case ; as, *he wrote for me.*

REMARK.—Prepositions are, often, not expressed before nouns, that signify the time *when*, or *how long* ; as, *six days, shalt thou labour ; they went to Boston, last week.*

RULE XX. Conjunctions couple similar modes, times and cases ; as, *wisdom and folly are opposite ; he writes well ; and speaks gracefully.*

REMARK.—Sometimes dissimilar modes, times, and cases, are connected together.

RULE

RULE XXI. Conjunctions, expressing uncertainty, or conditionality, govern the conjunctive mode; as, *if thou wert*.

SYNTAX OF PARTICIPLES.

RULE I. The participle agrees with its noun, or pronoun, in number, gender, and person; as, *they are taught*; *she is finely ornamented*.

RULE II. Participles govern the same case, as the verbs, from which they are derived, govern; as, *denying him*; *having excelled them*; "*he being a just man, was minded to put her away privately.*"

RULE III. Participles may govern two objective cases; as, *denying him the honour*.

RULE IV. A participle, having a preposition before it, may govern a following noun, or pronoun, in the objective; as, *by trusting him*.

RULE V. A participle between the article *the* and the preposition *of*,

is changed into the nature of a noun, and may be used as a nominative, or objective, word ; as, by *the subduing of our passions* ; *the serving of God affords* delight.

REMARK.—When the definitive article, *the*, precedes a participle, the preposition *of*, ought ever to follow ; otherwise the different parts of speech will be confounded. In *storming of the citadel*, is bad English : It ought to be thus : In *the storming of the citadel*.

RULE VI. Verbal nouns govern the objective case after them ; as, you heard of *his loving them*.

RULE VII. A verbal noun may do the office of a nominative case to a following verb ; as, *his debauching himself was* ruinous to his family.

RULE VIII. A verbal noun may be in the objective case, and governed by a preceding verb ; as, he regretted *his mispending* his time, at school.

RULE IX. A verbal noun may be governed, in the objective, by a preposition ; as, *by his sauntering* away his time, his family came to poverty.

REMARK.—It, hence, appears, that a verbal noun has the nature of both a verb and a noun. As a noun, it may be used either in the nominative, or objective, case ; and as a verb, it governs the word, that follows it, in the objective. Sometimes, a verbal noun is used without any objective case after it. As, we speak of *ambition's being* restless.

RULE X. A participle, in connection with an adverb, is independent ; as, a man, *strictly speaking*, enjoys more happiness, in this world, than misery.

RULE XI. A noun, in connection with the present participle, is put in the nominative independent ; as, *provision failing*, there was a mutiny among the soldiers.

REMARK.

REMARK.—A participle, connected with an independent noun, may govern a word following it, in the objective case; *the water undermining the foundation, the house tumbled to the ground.*

RULE XII. A gerundial participle, in the objective, may be governed by the preceding verb; and the participle may govern a following noun, in the objective; as, *the master could not forbear reprimanding them, for their negligence.*

REMARK.—Between a *gerundial participle* and *verbal noun* there is a difference. A verbal noun is ever connected with a possessive pronoun, expressed or understood; a gerundial participle is, never, connected with a possessive pronoun. *Again,* a verbal noun may be the nominative to a following verb; a gerundial participle can never be used as a nominative.

RULE

RULE XIII. Participles govern verbs, in the infinitive mode ; as, Philander, *desiring to excel* his classmates, ruined his constitution ; youth *being trained to obey* laws, will make good citizens.

APPENDIX.

A P P E N D I X.

ELLIPSIS.

IN grammar, ellipsis is the elegant omission of some words in a sentence. The words omitted, must be supplied in thought, to parse the sentence grammatically.

PUNCTUATION

Teaches the proper use of the points and marks.

THE COMMA (,)

Must be used, on each side of all important adverbs ; of independent participles connected with adverbs ; of nouns independent connected with participles ; and of verbs in the infinitive independent.

Nouns, that signify the time *when*, or *how long*, have commas on each side of them.

Nouns, adjectives, adverbs, and verbs, in succession, must be separated, by commas. But, when they are connected *in pairs* by the conjunction

junction, *and*, they must not be separated, by commas.

A sentence, in which the relative pronoun, is the nominative to the verb, must be separated by commas.

The two members of a compound sentence, that may be elegantly transposed, may have a comma between them.

THE SEMICOLON (;)

May be used between sentences, that are nearly, or remotely, connected.

THE COLON (:)

May be used between two sentences, when the latter is explanatory of the former, or is a consequence, or an additional remark.

THE PERIOD (.)

Is used at the end of all complete sentences; and, also, after all abbreviations; as, Mr. Dr. Col. Esq. &c.

INTERROGATION (?)

Is the sign of asking a question, thus, ¿ Is he well ?

EXCLAMATION

EXCLAMATION (!)

Is the note of surprize ; as, O !
Alas ! Strange times !

CAPITAL LETTERS

Must be used, at the beginning of all proper names, and such words as express titles of honour. They must, also, be used, at the beginning of books, chapters, sections, paragraphs, sentences, and every line of poetry. The pronoun, *I*, and the interjection, *O*, should ever be capitals.

ACCENT

Is the pressure of voice, that falls on some letter, or syllable, of a word.

EMPHASIS

Is the pressure of voice, that falls immediately on some important word, in a sentence.

CADENCE

Is the depressure of voice, in pronouncing some word. The last word, in every complete sentence, admits a depressure of voice.

THE END.

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