

First
Lessons in English Grammar

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INTRODUCTION

Do all nations use the same language?

They do not.

What language do the people of France use?

They use French.

What language does America use?

They use English.

What language do we use?

We use English.

What is the use of language?

To express thought.

How is thought expressed in words?

By combining them.

How many words are necessary to express an idea or a thought?

It takes at least two.

If I say, "trees Robert," do I express an idea?

No.

Elements of English Grammar – p. 9

Which word tells what is said or asserted of the person or thing?

To the Teacher – Ask similar questions using the following samples:

1. Horses run.
2. Dogs bark.
3. Trees grow.
4. Fishes swim.
5. Ships sail.
6. Paul reads.

Require the pupil to say or assert something about each of the following, so as to express an idea or make a sentence.

Charles _____. Rivers _____. Birds _____.
Men _____. Shoppers _____. Children ____.

Ask the pupil to supply the name of a person or thing in each of the following examples so as to express an idea or make a sentence.

_____work. _____wither. _____sew. _____flow.
_____sting. _____fight. _____sing. _____play. _____talk.

NOUNS AND VERBS

Boys study.

What word is the name of the person or persons of whom we are speaking? “Boys.”

What word tells what is said or asserted of the boys? “Study”

What word is a noun in this sentence? Why? “Boys”, because it is used as a name.

What are general names called? “Common” nouns