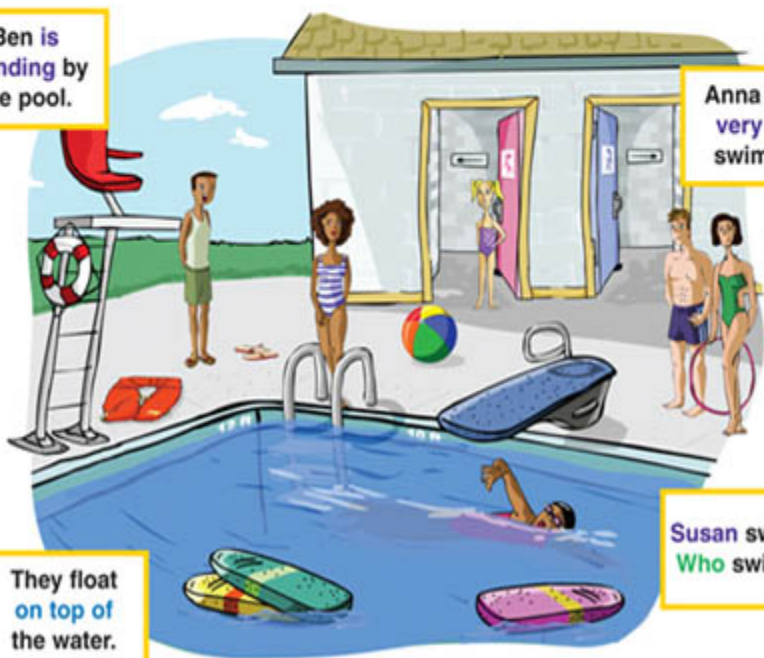


Just Enough ENGLISH GRAMMAR

Illustrated

Ben is
standing by
the pool.

Anna has a
very nice
swimsuit.



They float
on top of
the water.

Susan swims.
Who swims?

Gabriele Stobbe

Just Enough
ENGLISH
GRAMMAR
Illustrated

Gabriele Stobbe



New York Chicago San Francisco Lisbon London Madrid Mexico City
Milan New Delhi San Juan Seoul Singapore Sydney Toronto

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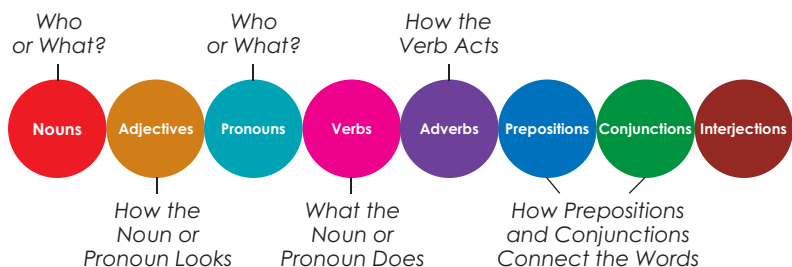
INTRODUCTION

What This Book Contains

- *Just Enough English Grammar Illustrated* requires no formal exposure to English grammar. The book is designed to give learners of English a basic grammar foundation. It may serve other students as a reference or review tool.
- This book takes a practical approach. It does not focus on rules and definitions. Instead, it studies how words work and what they do in sentences.
- The material is presented in an easy, step-by-step format. As the learner moves through the book, he or she will gain an understanding of the basic principles of the English language. These principles are laid out simply but thoroughly, and each new principle builds on what the student learned earlier in the book.
- Real-life scenarios use interesting characters and engaging, simple vocabulary. Basic English structures presented in visually engaging graphics bring grammar alive and therefore increase the student's desire to learn grammar.
- Carefully designed graphic illustrations translate grammatical concepts into visual images. Each topic or grammar concept is clearly explained with relevant graphic illustrations. They make comprehension possible without wordy explanations.
- Graphic organizers and Venn diagrams clarify concepts and help the reader review. They stimulate creative and logical thought processes, and also help the student to evaluate and categorize language structures.
- Review Exercises and the Answer Key provide the learner with the opportunity to test his or her skills.
- This book offers choices. It takes into account the different ways in which students learn and, accordingly, provides a variety of learning tools. From real-life scenarios to illustrations and graphic organizers, there is something for everyone.

Organization of Chapters

Your Framework



The eight chapters of this book are organized around the eight parts of speech. It is important to become familiar with the name of each part of speech and to expand your knowledge about each one. The parts of speech will become the overall framework of your English language knowledge. It is to this framework that you will add important information necessary to build your basic grammar foundation.

The following strategies were designed to show you how these eight parts of speech can help you to build your foundation.

Your Strategies: Words are Tools for Communication

Strategy #1: How to Use Your Tools

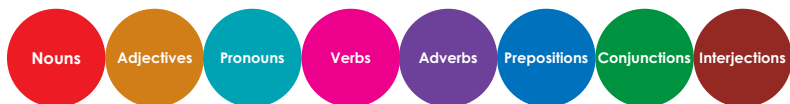
Becoming familiar with your tools is the first strategy. Words are tools for communication. The vocabulary words used in this book were chosen because of their applicability to real-life scenarios. Your tools—a set of illustrated vocabulary words—are at the end of this Introduction. The players represented throughout the book are everyday people. They add spark and a new, refreshing approach to what is usually dry material. The illustrations of all key players are followed by brief biographies with interesting details about the lives of the main personalities.

Strategy #2: Basic Language Concept Number One: Form of the Eight Parts of Speech

Communication generally means putting words together to express your thoughts in context. Before you can put words together effectively, you must comprehend basic language concepts. This book emphasizes an understanding of key grammatical concepts over the memorization of individual words.

Most of the chapters in this book are divided into two parts. Typically, the part of speech that is the focus of the chapter is first discussed in terms of its *form*—the qualities that it has in common with other parts of speech. Then the *use* of each part of speech is considered.

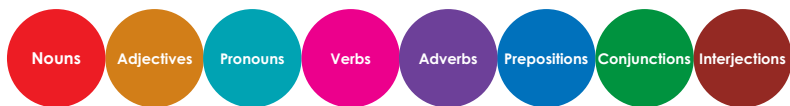
What Information Do All of These Parts of Speech Give?



In this book, you will learn about three important concepts: number, gender, and grammar person. Part One of several of the chapters will show how these three concepts are expressed in the different parts of speech.

Strategy #3: Basic Language Concept Number Two: Use of the Eight Parts of Speech

What Jobs Can All of These Parts of Speech Do?



Part Two will build on what you learn in Part One. In many chapters, Part Two explains the jobs that different parts of speech perform in a sentence, as well as the relationships between different words within a sentence. A thorough understanding of the concepts covered in Part One will make Part Two seem much easier!

Your Tools: English Vocabulary Words



bikini



locker room



towel



life preserver



beach ball



suntan lotion



sunglasses



pool



flippers



umbrella



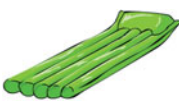
bathing suit



lifeguard chair



Mexican hat



air mattress



diving board



whistle



pool ladder



hamburger



hot dog



goggles

Your Players: Family and Friends

The Miller Family



Mr. Miller
father



Mrs. Miller
mother



Anna Miller
daughter



Andy Miller
son

the parents



Anna
sister



Andy
brother



Lakeside Pool Friends



Ben
the boy



Jake
the boy

the boys



Susan
the girl



Maria
the girl



Anna
the girl

the girls



Kelly
the young girl



Andy
the young boy

the children



Charles Smith
the man

the pool manager



Mrs. Miller
the woman

the teacher

MEET THE PLAYERS



Susan

Susan lives in Miami, Florida. She is 16 years old. Susan is the lifeguard at Lakewood Pool. She is also on the swim team. Susan always wears her lucky red swim cap to swim meets. She dates Ben. Susan has a little brother named Tim. Tim likes to cheer for Susan at swim meets. She also has a cat named Snowball. Susan and her best friend, Anna, enjoy shopping, and they often babysit for their neighbor Kelly.



Ben

Ben moved to Miami three years ago. He is 17 years old. Ben has an older sister named Claire. He also has a puppy named Shadow. He is good friends with Charles Smith, the pool manager. He joined the swim team two years ago. Ben joined because he liked Susan, but now he is a very serious swimmer. He is always competing with Jake. Ben has trouble with grammar at school. He wants to study grammar this summer. Ben likes to surf and go bowling when he is not at the pool.

Maria

Maria is an exchange student. She is from Mexico. She misses her family. Maria is 17 years old. Spanish is her native language. She hopes that her English will improve. Maria lives with Anna and her family. She is a very good swimmer, but she is not on the swim team. She enjoys going to the pool with Anna. This summer, she wants to learn more about American holidays and customs.



Anna

Anna moved to Miami six months ago. She is from Seattle. She is 16 years old. Anna works at the Lakewood Pool concession stand. Anna is best friends with Susan and is dating Jake. She has a brother named Andy. Her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Miller, volunteer at the pool often. Anna worries that Jake and Ben are too competitive. She hopes that the swim meet will not hurt her friendship with Susan. Anna enjoys going to the beach and baking brownies.



Jake

Jake is Ben's rival. He is 18 years old. All of the girls think he is cute. He dates Anna. Jake likes to show off and do cannonballs into the pool. Jake has two younger brothers, Frank and Ryan. He wants to swim in the Olympics. Jake spends most of his time at Lakewood Pool. He really wants to beat Ben in the next swim meet. Jake hopes that he will get to spend time with Anna this summer.



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CHAPTER 1

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1.1 Part One and Part Two Overview

In this first chapter, an important basic concept, the noun, is introduced. Nouns are a powerful part of speech. Here is a summary of the material about the form and uses of nouns covered in this chapter.

Part One: Form of English Nouns

What Information Do Nouns Give?

Types of Nouns
Number of Nouns
Noun Suffixes
Gender of Nouns
Articles

Part Two: Uses of English Nouns

What Jobs Can Nouns Do?

Nouns as Subjects
Nouns as Subject Complements
Possessive Nouns
Nouns as Direct Objects
Nouns as Objects of Prepositions

PART ONE: FORM OF ENGLISH NOUNS

What Information Do Nouns Give?

***Form* refers to the qualities and characteristics that nouns have in common.**

Let's start with the different types of nouns.







1.2 Types of Nouns

A *noun* is a word used to name a person, place, thing, or idea.

A *noun* is one of the most important words you use when speaking and writing. A noun names a person, place, or thing; a quality, idea, or action.

We can classify or group nouns into the following categories: proper, common, concrete, abstract, collective, and compound nouns. The following chart explains these classifications.

Types of Nouns

 Susan	Proper	Proper nouns label specific people, places, or things. The first letter must be capitalized.
 school	Common	Common nouns label general groups, places, people, or things.
 hamburger	Concrete	Concrete nouns label things experienced through the senses of sight, hearing, taste, smell, and touch.
 love	Abstract	Abstract nouns label things not knowable through the senses.
 family	Collective	Collective nouns label groups as a unit.
 suntan lotion	Compound	Compound nouns label a single concept composed of two or more words.

Note: A noun can belong to more than one group. For example, **suntan lotion** is both a common and a concrete noun, as well as a compound noun.

1.3 One or Many: Singular and Plural Nouns

Nouns carry information about *number*. When a word refers to one person or thing, it is singular in number. When it refers to more than one of the same type of thing, it is plural in number.



**The *number* of a noun is indicated by its ending.
The final letters of a noun determine
how its plural is formed.**

The following examples illustrate how to change from the singular form of a noun to the plural form of a noun.

The plural of most nouns is formed by adding **-s**.



For nouns ending in **s**, **x**, **z**, **sh**, and **ch**, add **-es**.



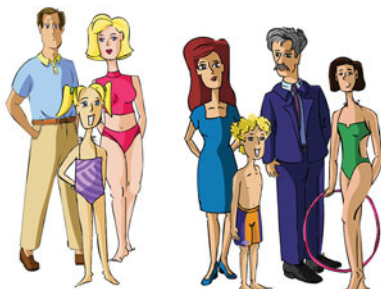
Nouns ending in **f** or **fe** form their plurals by changing the **f** or **fe** to **v** and adding **-es**.



Nouns ending in **y** form their plurals by changing the **y** to **i** and adding **-es**.



family



famil**ies**

Take a look at other noun endings to discover other irregular noun plurals.

1.4 A Closer Look at Noun Endings: Common Noun Suffixes

The main part of a word is called the *root*. Suffixes are added to the end of the root. A suffix consists of one or more letters or syllables added to the end of a root to change its meaning.

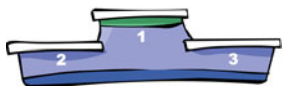
Adding **-er** indicates the person who is carrying out an action.



Example: A person who swims is a swim**er**.

Note: Because of spelling rules, the **-m-** is doubled.

Adding **-ance** indicates the fact or state of carrying out an action.



Example: Someone who performs gives a perform**ance**.

Adding **-ness** indicates a quality or state of being.



Example: The state of being happy is happ**iness**.

Note: Because of spelling rules, the **-y** changes to **-i-**.

Adding **-ity** indicates an action or state of affairs that is abstract.



Example: Something that is possible is a **possibility**.

Note: Because of spelling rules, the **-e-** is dropped.

Recognizing these suffixes can help you to identify nouns. The ability to distinguish nouns from other words is very useful.

1.5 The Biological Nature: Masculine, Feminine, and Neuter Nouns

English nouns do not have gender. That is, they are not inherently masculine or feminine. However, they may refer to male or female people or animals. When things have no clear gender, they are often said to be inanimate objects or things, and they are thought of as being neuter.



Masculine Nouns

Nouns that refer to male people or animals are *masculine nouns*.

Examples:

Mr. Miller, man, father, actor, bull



Feminine Nouns

Nouns that refer to female people or animals are *feminine nouns*.

Examples:

Mrs. Miller, woman, mother, actress, cow



Neuter Nouns

Nouns that denote things of neither gender are *neuter nouns*.

Examples:





locker, ball, towel, lotion

Nouns often come in the company of other words. It is important to learn about these little words, since they signal that a noun follows, and this could assist you in identifying nouns more easily.

1.6 In the Company of a Noun: Articles

Nouns are often accompanied by *articles*, also commonly called *noun namers*. These are placed before a noun.

Articles

General	 a boy	The indefinite article a (or an used before a noun starting with a vowel) signals that the noun is indefinite. It can refer to any member of a group as opposed to one particular member. Example: a boy
	 boys	There is no indefinite article used with plural, general nouns. Example: boys
Specific	 the boy	The definite article the is used before a singular noun when the noun is particular or specific. Example: the boy
	 the boys	The definite article the is also used before a plural noun when the noun is particular or specific. Example: the boys

! *Hint: **A** is used before words beginning with a consonant; **an** is used before words beginning with a vowel.*