



USE OF SYNTAX AND GRAMMAR IN PROPER WRITING

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Abstract

Anita Barry (2008) in his book *Linguistic Perspectives on Language and Education* provided with some essential data about Syntax and Grammar Teaching (pp.55-76). In the chapter, she stated that Language proficiency means not only learning vocabulary which is intended to express ideas but it deals with other linguistic aspects such as syntax. For teaching languages, a notion of “syntax” means arranging words in its correct order. In order to form speech or journals learners should be aware of “word classes” which play great role for conveying the right meaning in accurate writing. It refers to the parts of speech.

Key words: Syntax, grammar, word class, sentence structure, linear order, grammar structure.

Introduction

Every language has its way of forming sentences by using words in order. For example, noun, adjective, pronoun, adverbs are used for different purposes in a context. Noun introduces a person or an object, pronoun can substitute it if it is needed, and adjective can identify quality or feature of something that should be transferred to the written discourse in order to describe a state. There is one important case that, syntax of the languages differs from language to language. For example, sentence structures of Uzbek language are not the same as English language in “constituent structure”. In English discourse articles, adjectives precede nouns and nouns precede verbs. In Russian language noun precedes verbs as in English, but in Uzbek it doesn’t and comes usually at the end of the sentences. We call them as “linear order” in language. For example: “Malika kecha gullar ekdi” in Uzbek can be put in English linear order as follows: “Malika-yesterday-flowers-planted”.

This kind of differences impede noticeably to the learners’ writing abilities in target language. Anita Barry (2008, p.80) sited that: «The fact is that, all languages vary over time for variety of reasons.” As she commented, language can’t be formed in one structure or due to one appropriate circumstance. English language principles related to grammar teaching is also changed. Its’ importance in language use differed from time to time, so that; it affected the Language teaching traditions. For teaching purposes traditional grammar means classifying words into parts of speech, dividing





into phrases, clauses or other grammatical units. From the linguistic point of view, some principles of grammar influence on students writing competences in English. These principles are as follows:

- a) English is the same as Greek and Latin language structures.
- b) Grammar knowledge is complete in teaching.
- c) English grammar is not dynamic.
- d) Grammatical terminology has bad or good definitions.
- e) Questions have one answer.

Anita Barry (2018, p.63) commented: «Together, these assumptions can be deadly and probably did lead to the death of grammar teaching for several decades in the United States.” Even though, Communicative language teaching method does not focus on grammar but it is defined as a matter of urgency for sentence structures, writing quality papers and also performing utterances in Foreign languages. So that, learners can identify grammar in written context but not separately as a subject. Over the years these assumptions changed their “meaning” into the following:

- a) Students learn the grammar from the early ages.
- b) Language has its own structure and should not be compared with other languages.
- c) Language is dynamic and it can change its structure due to their usage not due to the theoretical point of view.
- d) Grammar questions can have answers more than one accepted.

As described above, grammar should be accepted as a natural use of written language but there are some points should be stated. As a provider or facilitator of a Language, teacher should not accept every variation as a rule. They should take account of “proper English” while teaching in the institutions. For example, use of some contracted forms in speech such as “gonna” or “gotta” can’t be proper for the written form of the language. For academic English misuse of words or inappropriate grammar can affect intended message and accuracy in language. All in all, Syntax and Grammar Teaching is important for making use of word classes, constituent structures and linear order in writing properly in English language.

References

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