

Grammar for Effective Communication – A Review

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Abstract

Communication skill is the common phenomena for all the ages. It involves Listening, Speaking, Reading and Writing (LSRW). It is classified into verbal, non-verbal, interpersonal and mass media. For an effective communication, grammar takes place a vital role. For a better and faster communication, grammar helps us to get accuracy and fluency. Additionally, grammar gives a moral strength to the speaker. It gives a meaningful communication. Grammar teaches how a sentence should be and should not be. Moreover it gives a skill of expression. Speaker cannot disagree with the significance of grammar in communication. Grammar in communication is an inevitable part. Communication without grammar leads to the wrong direction. Learning grammar is essential in the Second Language Acquisition (SLA). To follow the global structure, grammar directs to get a good communication skill without errors.

Key words: Effective Communication, Grammar, LSRW and SLA.

Introduction

There is a big debate on grammar in communication. Many question whether grammar is important in communication. Undoubtedly, grammar is an important area which will help for effective communication. Moreover, it makes the learners to speak without any barriers in communication. This study is an attempt to collect the reviews in the field of grammar for effective communication. It attempts to review in the foreign context as well as in the Indian context. Additionally, the collected review is classified into study reports, analyses, experimental studies and projects.

Grammar and communication are the two overlapping fields that are dealing with the effectiveness in the usage of a particular language. Grammar helps to communicate a language without violating its rules and structures. It also facilitates to deliver a better communication

without any obstruction. Grammar meets every need of the learners. In addition to accuracy, grammar makes the syntactic system easier.

Significance of the Study

This study has the following significance. They are as follows:

- To gain the information about grammar and communication,
- To be the reference for the contemporary works,
- To update the methodology from the collected reviews, and
- To find out the research gap and to write further research.

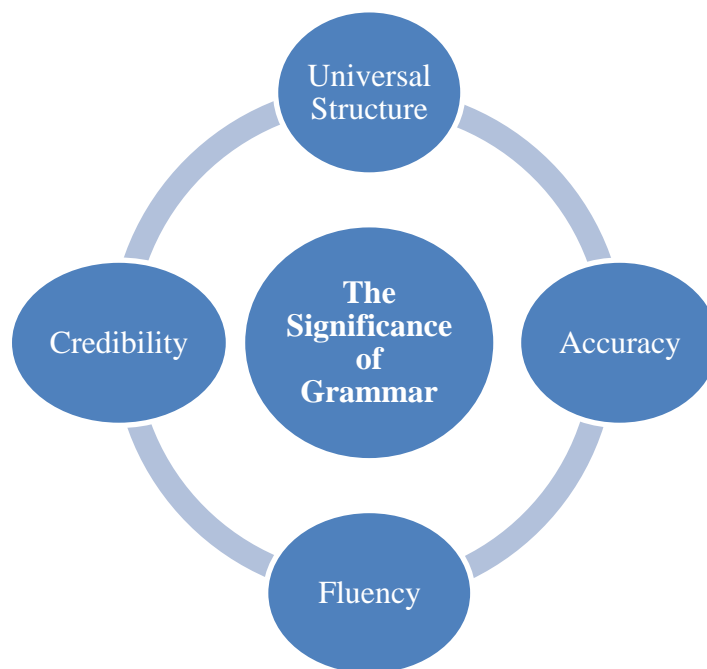


Fig. 1The Significance of Grammar

The fig. 1 shows the significance of grammar. The areas viz. Universal Structure Accuracy, Fluency, and Credibility are the predominant factors in communication. They are closely connected to the grammar of a language.

Brief Review of Literature

The major reason for choosing this area is to state the importance of grammar in communication. Grammar rules and structures vary according to the language. The construction of sentences, clauses, phrases, words and their sentence structures is not the same as other language. The students from bilingual or multilingual background have been facing such problems in constructing the sentences because of diversity in different sentence patterns. For example, Tamil has S+O+V pattern whereas English has S+V+O. Thus, grammar needs to be taught to the second language learner.

Marmor, G. &Petitto, L. (1979) conducted an experimental study to analyze how well is grammar represented using Simultaneous Communication and American Sign Language (ASL) in the classroom. To check the effectiveness, the researcher collected samples of communication from two hearing teachers and tested at a large residential school for Deaf children. The study attempted to find the difference between teachers' spoken and signed utterance with reference to grammatical construction. Based on the results, signed utterance were ungrammatical whereas simultaneous communication offered and made salient.

Crowhurst (1983) examined the association between syntactic complexity and quality of written composition. He collected the reviews and examined into two broad divisions. They were intervention based studies and a set of diverse studies. Results showed that the basic knowledge in grammar facilitate the students to enhance their written communication.

Mitchell, J. T., & Redmond, M. L. (1993) attempted to examine the difference views on grammar. They revisited the problematic areas of grammar. Based on the findings of the study, the association of grammar and communication can bring the positive classroom climate. According to the study, classroom communication and grammar explanations facilitate real communication in the target language.

Zhongganggao, D. R. (2001) made an experimental study on distinguish between early age and adult age learners. This paper attempted to give the different process of learning in the first and the second language acquisition. He argued that mother tongue was acquired with the rich cultural background and linguistic environment. Comparatively, the learners did not have

the rich platform to acquire the second language. He states, “Grammar as a catalyst for second language accuracy and fluency.”

Batstone, R., & Ellis, R. (2009) wrote an article titled principled Grammar Teaching. In this article he states, “A key aspect of the acquisition of grammar for second language learners involves learning how to make appropriate connections between grammatical forms and the meanings which they typically signal.”

Jianyun Zhang (2009) wrote a paper on, “Necessity of Grammar Teaching.” In this paper he argued, “Grammar teaching is necessary in language teaching.” Further he stated “Grammar is not acquired naturally; it needs be taught.” It is true that learners of second language cannot be possible to learn its grammar without instruction. He concluded that it is difficult to learn grammar on their own.

Shengmei Wang (2010) published an article entitled, “The significance of Grammar to Middle School Students in China.” He argued, “Grammar has always been playing a role in foreign language teaching and learning.” He also pointed out, “The central part of a language is its grammar.” He highlighted the theoretical approaches to grammar teaching from grammar in the GT method followed by Situational Language Teaching (SLT), Audio-lingual Method and Communicative Language Teaching Method in China.

Herring, S. C. (2012) studied the importance of digital communication and grammar. This study was dealt with typography, orthography, morphology, and syntax in e-grammar. E-grammar referred as the grammar of electronic language. It is found from the study that the prediction of earlier writers was that the internet could have the possibility to change the language worse. Based on the findings, it is revealed that many young learners are the part of using e-grammar in their offline writing.

Debata (2013) studied the importance of grammar in communication. He stated the association of grammar and communication in his paper. He also highlighted the genesis of grammar. Additionally, he pointed out different types of interpretations and discussions of the most outstanding grammarians of English language acclaimed widely. The study concluded that grammar helps to master over its four basic skills.

Samuel Praise & Meenakshi. K (2015) made an analysis of the importance of grammar in communicative competence. They state, “Grammar is the foundation for communication, which helps in understanding the meaning and intent of a message.” They divided the language teaching into three phases where they discussed the role of grammar through contemporary methods. Therefore, they concluded that one can have the control of expression and effective communication skill by learning grammar.

Summary of the Reviews

As seen above, studies are conducted to analyze the importance of communication in the Indian context. Studies are also conducted in improving the grammar skill and grammar skill using intervention. Many review highlight that proper communication would not be possible without studying grammar. Researchers found that grammar is the central part of communication.

Suggestions for Further Research

Based on the collected reviews, the following areas can be taken up for further studies. They are as follows:

- Studies can be conducted in the field of orthography using games through technology.
- Studies can be concentrated on basic grammar definitions and their explanations in a comprehensive way which helps to work out the complex grammar parts.
- Further studies can be carried out using eclectic methods to enhance the grammar skill of the learners.

Discussion and Conclusion

It is understood that communication with grammar leads to speak expressively and comprehensively. The knowledge in the field of grammar sounds better in their communication. It gives confidence to the speaker to address over a large group of people. The speaker can deliver meaningful sentences using universal structure. Therefore, in order to polish our communication skill, grammar teaching must be paid more attention in the language classroom.

Teaching grammar together with communication skills would give the better understanding and create a positive impact in the teaching learning process.

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