

## INNOVATIVE METHODS FOR TEACHING VERBS IN ENGLISH GRAMMAR

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### **Abstract**

*The paper deals with the methods used in teaching verbs in English grammar classes. In today's grammar, a downturn is seen among the learners when it comes to learning grammar. The main reason behind this state is lack of innovative teaching in the classes. The teachers have to use various methods to teach the grammar rules. Grammar, by its nature, a boring part of English language. It always takes time for the learners to understand the concept and usage of grammar in any language. When it comes to English language, it is very important to learn the basics of grammar. Since English is the universal language, it is necessary to learn its roots, i.e., grammar. To develop interest among the learners, the teaching process should get upgraded to their level of interest. The teachers have to use attractive methods to teach grammar. The effective teaching of grammar can be achieved when the classroom is very much interactive. The important component of English grammar is verbs. The learners have to be fed with enough knowledge on the usage of verbs, which helps the learners in easy learning of verbs. To make the grammar class attentive, games help both the teacher and the learners. The games and activities should be in a way that it promotes interest among the learners towards grammar, especially verbs. This paper deals with the impressive and interactive methods to teach verbs.*

**Keywords:** English grammar, Verbs, interactive methods.

English is the second universal language used widely next to Hindi. The globally accepted language English, has many beautiful grammatical features. The roots of English language are its grammatical units. Without strong stones and rocks, one cannot construct a high tower. Likewise, without learning grammar, one cannot learn the English language in full. Learning is a process where the learners should engage themselves with interest and involvement. English is not a subject rather it is a language. The learners should develop passion towards the language. The grammar of English language helps the learners to understand the language. The purpose of learning grammar should be taught to the learners by the teachers in a way that the learners develop interest towards grammar. Grammar provides the systematic and linguistic approach to learn the language. It also makes the learning process uncomplicated.

The major element in English grammar is the verbs. Verbs play an important role in English language. Writing and understanding the language becomes simple with a wide knowledge of grammar. There are no sentences without verbs. Verbs are very important to understand the meaning of the sentences. Verbs also helps in identifying the tenses of the sentences. It is very essential to know the verbs before start writing in English. To construct a proper sentence in English, verbs act as the stepping stones. The importance of verbs should be taught in the primary level of English classes. The verb class should be carried out with various activities and games, only when the learners can grasp the content of the class. In this technologically developed generation, it is very important for the teachers to make the class entertained with fun. The work of teachers is now lessening by the technologies. The grammar classes can be carried out through computers and games. There are many online pathways to help both the teachers and the learners.

## **ACTIVE MIND, INTENSE LEARNING**

The grammar class should engage the learners not only inside the classroom, but also outside. There are various forms of verbs in English language. To teach each type of verb, the teacher can use different games and activities. Also one fun activity can be done to teach all the types of verbs. The teacher should have a wide knowledge of the subject. The teacher should also be aware of what the learners expect from them. Understanding the learners' mind helps the teacher to handle the grammar class without any difficulty. There are different methods used in teaching grammar. There are few games listed below to teach grammar inside the classroom.

### **1. BUILD YOUR ACTIONS**

Verb is defined as the "action words". The term verb refers to the action of the doer in a sentence. The verbs are of different types of verbs. The basic step to learn verbs is to know what are verbs. The teacher should give a wide knowledge about the subject, verbs. The teacher can use black board or colourful cards to explain what are verbs.

But to make the learners understand the concept of verbs, the class can be turned into a play area.

In this game, 'build your actions', the class has to be separated into groups, according to the total strength of the class. Each team should be provided with different colour papers. For example, if team A is given blue colour, team B should be given yellow. Each team will be given 10 minutes to build a tower. The learners should write as many verbs they can within the given period of time. They should write in a way that the words should look like a tower. The more number of words written by a team will be awarded a token of appreciation. All the words should be the verbs. Here the learners will learn the difference between nouns and verbs. The teacher can explain the game with the use of verbs. The learners will automatically come to know that the game they played is described through the verb "play".

## **2. SNAKE AND LADDER**

The common game known through ages is the snake and ladder game. To teach verbs, this game helps both the teachers and the learners. In the grammar class, the snake and ladder game can be turned into "snake, verb and ladder". the class can be divided into small groups, each of three or four learners. The teacher rolls the dice to a team and the number that appears on the dice is noted. One from that particular team should tell verbs equal to the number on the dice. With that verbs all other team members should construct a sentence or two sentences using the verbs said by their teammate. This helps the learners to know how to construct a proper sentence using verbs.

## **3. MULTIPLY THE ONE**

Here is another game to make the grammar class entertained. The class is divided into four groups. One verb will be on the black board. With that verb, a story has to be framed by the learners. The first sentence will be said by the teacher, which is then continued by the learners. The awards will be based on how the learners use the same verb in different ways. This helps the learners to learn the verb tense used in sentences. For example, let us consider the verb to be "dance". So the story can be as follows: 'Rita dances well. Rita danced yesterday in her family wedding. Rita is dancing in our school annual day function. Rita will be dancing on famous stages in future.' This is an example for how this game helps the learners to learn verb tense, because verb defines the tense of the sentences. It is game where the learners can learn both the tense form and the correct usage of verbs in sentences. The story ends when the class time ends.

#### 4. ENACTING THE VERB

One from the learners is picked randomly and is given a secret card. The secret card contains a verb written on it. The person should not tell the verb loud out to the other learners in the class. Two columns are drawn on the black board as 'verb' and 'type of verb'. The person standing in front of the learners should act out the verb. With the actions, the other learners should find the verb. Again another random learner is chosen to find out the type of the verb. This helps the learners to get familiar with the types of verbs and its usage.

#### 5. VERBS IN POEMS

In English, we have many poems written using verbs as the major components. The rhymes taught in kinder garden are the best examples for this game. Here is a poem, which helps the learners to understand and learn the meaning of verbs.

##### *Incy Wincy Spider*

*Incy Wincy spider climbing up the spout.*

*Down came the rain, and washed poor Incy out.*

*Up came the sun, and dried up all the rain*

*And Incy Wincy spider went climbing up again.*

From this rhymes, the learners understand the meaning of the verbs 'climbing', 'came', 'washed', 'dried' and 'went'. Such rhymes can be acted out by the teacher inside the classroom to make the learners enjoy the class.

#### 6. VERB HUNT

Some colourful attractive cards are used in this game. This is same as the treasure hunt game, where in treasure hunt we go in search for a treasure. But in this game the learners will search for the verbs. Based on the number of learners, cards are made out of coloured charts. Verbs, nouns, and adjectives are written in separate cards and the cards are scattered inside the classroom. The learners should find the verb cards within the given time. The verb cards are collected in a box. The one who collects many number of verb cards are awarded with a token of appreciation. This game helps the learners to differentiate verbs from other parts of speech like nouns and adjectives.

## 7. COLOUR THE VERBS

The teacher writes many assorted words of nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs and articles. The words are written in white chalk piece. The learners are separated into teams and each team is given unique colour chalk piece. One from each team has to come and colour the verbs written on the black board. This game helps the learners to identify the verbs.

## CONCLUSION

To conclude, these kind of games and activities helps the learners to learn the verbs quickly without any difficulty. The teachers' work is also reduced and they can teach effortlessly. Learning verbs through games helps both the teachers and the learners. The upcoming generation learners may not use textbooks, because they are in a world of technology. For such learners, these games help in learning the grammar lessons. These type of games and activities based learning are now growing up in today's education field. The future of teaching system and education system will be based on technology like smart classes. To make the future generation to learn the English language, activity based teaching is necessary. The importance of English language is now widely known, but the system of teaching lacks in providing the quality education. In such case, this type of game and fun filled classroom, helps the learners to learn the language with interest and involvement. In some schools the smart class system helps in learning through visual effects. Some schools also engaged themselves in providing fun filled classroom. The future of teaching system will be changed by replacing the traditional method of teaching by activity-based learning.

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