

On copyright

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On terminology

Please note here that students may know traditional grammar names, such as *Subject*, *Verb* and *Object*. However, some of these terms may not actually tell us what they are. They are just empty words, if you like, and students are often at a loss to explain exactly they mean. Gramatica does not replace these terms at all since they are widely used and it is good that students know them. Gramatica terms simply supplement some of these traditional terms and add extra meaning.

Please note a very important point here. Linguistics students are interested in grammar terminology, but ESL students are not. They simply need a set of ESL tools that will enable them to express themselves in daily life, exams, an academic setting, work or leisure. The terminology is secondary to this.

The choice is yours, therefore, to use Gramatica terms exclusively, traditional terms exclusively, or a combination of both.

On colours

I am often asked what the Gramatica colours of yellow, green and red mean and whether they align with traffic light colours. Although they are similar, they have no bearing at all as an exact parallel of *stop*, *wait* and *go*.

The yellow Noun House has no colour symbolism at all and it certainly does not refer to the orange wait traffic light.

The green Verb House, though, has a link to the traffic light idea of *Green = go*, although it refers also to the green of natural growth. *Green = go* and *green = grow*. In the Verb House, things are happening, changing or growing, so green was the best colour for this.

The red Holiday House is the other House that aligns with traffic lights. It simply means that the Main Clause has come to a *complete halt*, a *full stop*, and so this is where the fullstop (US: *period*) goes.

For further information, please look at the ***Gramatica Colours*** document.

On macro skills

At its heart, Gramatica is a new way of showing students that grammar underpins everything they write, speak, read and hear in English. Grammar is its core strength. Gramatica, therefore, provides thorough coverage of grammatical elements, and students use these to express themselves in relevant writing, speaking, reading, listening and vocabulary tasks.

Therefore, you may need to supplement Gramatica with third party reading, speaking, listening, writing and vocabulary activities. In order to maintain the holistic purity of Gramatica grammar resources, though, we strongly advise that you take great care in supplementing Gramatica with third party grammar resources, as terms and definitions may vary.

On levels

I have personally taught Gramatica elements to students of all ages and all ability levels, from Beginner to Advanced, as well as IELTS and Cambridge classes. However, Gramatica works best when introduced and taught to students of a certain ability range, as can be seen below. Its impact diminishes when taught to students at C1 and C2 levels, as they have already moved beyond learning the structural elements of English into finer nuances of meaning, extended vocabulary and deeper grammatical elements. If you have C1 or C2 students, you are advised to select a different coursebook or set of materials.

Level		Purpose of Gramatica
C2	✓	Correct errors and misunderstandings.
C1	✓	
B2	✓	Build on and extend the strong foundation.
B1	✓	
A2	✓	Start students here with a strong foundation.
A1	✓	

Please note that Gramatica is different to traditional coursebooks in that it does not have levels. All resources are available to all students at all times.

On coursebooks

Gramatica is developing into a complete, holistic learning system independent of all coursebooks. However, if you are required to use a coursebook, you may use Gramatica materials to teach students the foundational grammatical and structural concepts of English, and your coursebook materials as practice documents. Please consult your school, Head Teacher or Director of Studies for clarification on this.