

In Search of Grammar Tools
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Main Point

The idea behind this article is to present various ideas for teaching grammar. I have written an extended annotated bibliography describing different aspects of five different sources about teaching grammar in the classroom. I want to inform others that traditional methods of teaching grammar are ineffective and there are other, more successful ways to teach grammar to our students.

Quotes

- ❖ “I found this statement by Woltjer to be particularly interesting and also true: ‘It is not the repetitive traditional grammar lessons that are going to produce better writers within our classrooms, but a combination of sufficient reading time, purposeful writing experiences, and hands-on applicable mini-lessons, which will create a positive attitude and promote the development of our students’ language’ (98). This is information that most teachers know and understand but many do not incorporate into their classrooms. Traditional grammar does not work and we need to get students writing, reading and gradually learning about grammar.”
- ❖ “Through my own experience in school, worksheets, lectures, diagramming sentences, and grammar drills simply have no positive effect on learning grammar. Year after year, grammar was lectured to me and worksheets were filled out. When the next year of grammar instruction rolled around it was like being taught all over again. What was “learned” the year before had been forgotten and the grammar drills began again.”

Implications for teachers

Informing other teachers about teaching grammar more effectively will result in students actually utilizing grammar in their writing because they will be able to remember and use what they have learned. Using creative lessons may make more creative writing.

Works Cited

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