

The Importance of Grammar

Learning grammar rules doesn't have to be difficult if you take advantage of the many free English grammar teaching tools available online. There are several reasons why you might want to improve your understanding of the rules of grammar. For example:

- * Without good grammar, clear communication is nearly impossible. Proper grammar keeps you from being misunderstood while expressing your thoughts and ideas.
- * Writing and speaking correctly gives you the appearance of credibility. If you're attempting to build a reputation as an expert in your profession, this is extremely important.
- * Other people consider good grammar to be a mark of intelligence and education. Don't allow strangers to form a negative impression of you based on your poor communication skills.

Unfortunately, there is no shortcut to learning English grammar. While there are many spelling and grammar check software programs available, a computer can't fully grasp the intricacies of the English language. In some cases, a computer grammar check will even suggest incorrect alternatives when attempting to fix common errors.

The Internet is a wonderful resource for free English grammar teaching tools. Whether you're a high school student preparing for an upcoming exam or a businessperson looking for a way to improve your writing skills, there are free lessons and tutorials that can help you develop a better understanding of the key points of English grammar. Some of these are listed below.

- For a comprehensive review of English grammar, consider signing up for the email newsletter from the [Daily Grammar](#) website.
- [Grammar Monster](#) offers free English grammar teaching tools covering punctuation, parts of speech, and common grammatical mistakes.
- If you're looking for a quick review to help you feel more confident about your writing ability, check out the free online grammar lessons from [Superteacher](#).
- At the [1 Language](#) website, visitors can take advantage of a variety of English grammar teaching tools. Lessons are divided into beginning and intermediate categories, making this site an excellent resource for all types of language learners.

The Article Review

- I. Definition - An article review is a formal written summary of a magazine article's content.
- II. Purpose - To keep students up-to-date with the newest developments in their major studies.
- III. Content

Introduction - Identify the topic of the article, the size of the article, the article's use of illustrations, and your reason for choosing the article.

Body - Give the article's main points of information and evaluate the article's effectiveness, such as complexity, completeness, and understandability.

Conclusion - Explain the topic's future in relation to its development and in relation to your career.

IV. Format

Font: Times New Roman

Font Size: 11

Margins: Top – 1”

Bottom – 1”

Right – 1”

Left – 1”

(Microsoft Office Word 2007 Default)

Headings are to be single spaced (with 'Page 2' included on second page, if required)

Double space

Title line is to be double spaced and indented (if required). If article was web accessed, see sample

Double spacing for the remainder of the document

Word Count: 250 to 280 (Introduction, Body, and Conclusion *only*)

Referenced article is to be printed out and attached to the back of your review

For additional information that will assist you with the creation and completion of your article review, please reference the following textbooks:

Technical Writing That Works Edward J. Altmann and Dr. George J. Hallesky

Sentence Analysis Edward J. Altmann and Dr. George J. Hallesky

Please remember that the results of plagiarism will be a grade of 0% and appropriate disciplinary action

(Sample)

John Doe
Building Construction Technology
October 24, 2011

Steen, Bill and Athena. "The Beauty of Bales." Mother Earth News April/May 2001 : 34.

or (if Internet referenced)

Steen, Bill and Athena. "The Beauty of Bales." motherearthnews.com, April/May 2001. Web. 24 Oct. 2011.

This seven-page cover story article, of which half is illustrations, is an overview of the R-value, moisture considerations, roofs, and costs of straw-bale homes. Until seeing this article, I was not aware of any homes being made of straw. Although the concept seemed silly to me, it is a type of building construction of which I would like to learn more.

The article starts by mentioning that the oldest straw building was a school built around 1887 but later eaten by cattle. The authors then quote an R-30 insulation rating for a bale of straw and stress the importance of keeping the straw dry by listing factors from cutting the straw to monitoring the moisture content of the completed house. Gable and hip roof types that have steep slopes (6:12 preferably), large overhangs, and rain gutters are recommended. The cost of a straw house depends upon its size, and the authors give examples of square-foot costs ranging from \$2.00 to \$385.00.

Electrical wiring, plumbing, and heating are not mentioned along with insect infestation, insurance costs, and odors.

The article ends by identifying the 112 page, illustrated book by Bill and Athena Steen from which the article was adapted. This book might include the details that were not included in this article.

Living in a rural area where straw bales are plentiful, I want to research the topic further so that I can build a small garage or shed out of straw bales.