

# Understanding English Grammar

*A Linguistic Approach*

Ronald Wardhaugh



**BLACKWELL**  
*Oxford UK & Cambridge USA*

# Contents

<b>Preface</b>	<b>ix</b>
<b>1 Preliminaries</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1 Descriptivism and Prescriptivism (1) 1.2 Exercises (2)	
<b>2 Word Classes</b>	<b>4</b>
2.1 Parts of Speech (4) 2.2 Nouns (8) 2.3 Pronouns (12) 2.4 Verbs (16) 2.5 Adjectives (20) 2.6 Adverbs (23) 2.7 Class Boundaries (26) 2.8 Other Parts of Speech (28) 2.9 Exercises (31)	
<b>3 Constituents and Phrases</b>	<b>33</b>
3.1 Constituency (33) 3.2 Noun Phrases (36) 3.3 Adjective Phrases (46) 3.4 Prepositional Phrases (49) 3.5 Verb Phrases (51) 3.6 Adverb Phrases (60) 3.7 Exercises (64)	
<b>4 Basic Clauses</b>	<b>70</b>
4.1 Predicates and Roles (70) 4.2 Subjects (73) 4.3 Subject-Verb Agreement (78) 4.4 Complements (80) 4.5 Verb-Particle Constructions (90) 4.6 Exercises (93)	
<b>5 Coordination and Embedding</b>	<b>97</b>
5.1 Coordination (97) 5.2 Embedded Clauses (103) 5.3 Relative Clauses (104) 5.4 Noun Clauses (109) 5.5 Adverb Clauses (112) 5.6 Simple, Compound, and Complex Sentences (114) 5.7 Exercises (115)	

<b>6</b>	<b>Clausal Variation</b>	<b>118</b>
6.1	Passives (118)	
6.2	Imperatives (123)	
6.3	Questions (125)	
6.4	Emphatics (130)	
6.5	Negatives (130)	
6.6	Miscellaneous Patterns (133)	
6.7	Exercises (134)	
<b>7</b>	<b>Underlying Relationships</b>	<b>136</b>
7.1	Sentence Generation (137)	
7.2	Relationships (140)	
7.3	Passives (141)	
7.4	Imperatives (145)	
7.5	Affix Hopping and Do Support (146)	
7.6	Questions (148)	
7.7	Relatives (152)	
7.8	Exercises (156)	
<b>8</b>	<b>Rules and Principles</b>	<b>160</b>
8.1	Negatives (160)	
8.2	Dative Movement (161)	
8.3	Reflexives (163)	
8.4	<i>There</i> Insertion (165)	
8.5	Complements (166)	
8.6	Raising (169)	
8.7	Extrapositioning (172)	
8.8	Clefting (173)	
8.9	Pronominalization, Substitution, and Ellipsis (174)	
8.10	Exercises (177)	
<b>9</b>	<b>Sounds and Systems</b>	<b>180</b>
9.1	Contrastive Sounds (180)	
9.2	Distinctive Characteristics (187)	
9.3	Systems (191)	
9.4	Phonemic Sequences (193)	
9.5	Neutralization (195)	
9.6	Transcriptions (196)	
9.7	Exercises (198)	
<b>10</b>	<b>Phonetic Realization</b>	<b>200</b>
10.1	Allophonic Variation (200)	
10.2	Transcriptions (207)	
10.3	Regional and Social Variations (208)	
10.4	Exercises (212)	
<b>11</b>	<b>Word Formation</b>	<b>214</b>
11.1	Words and Lexemes (214)	
11.2	Morphology (216)	
11.3	Inflection (218)	
11.4	Derivation (224)	
11.5	Compounding (231)	
11.6	Conversion and Other Processes (233)	
11.7	Exercises (236)	
<b>12</b>	<b>Words and Sounds</b>	<b>239</b>
12.1	English Stress (239)	
12.2	Stress Assignment (241)	
12.3	Consonant Alternations (245)	
12.4	Vowel Alternations (248)	
12.5	Exercises (252)	

<b>13</b>	<b>Sounds in Context</b>	<b>254</b>
13.1	Syllables (254)	
13.2	Intonation (258)	
13.3	Allegro Speech (261)	
13.4	Exercises (265)	
<b>14</b>	<b>Further Reading</b>	<b>266</b>
	<b>Indexed Glossary</b>	<b>269</b>