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Essential Grammar in Use

WITH ANSWERS

**A self-study
reference and practice
book for elementary
students of English**

Raymond Murphy

CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

УДК 811.111'36 (075)

ББК 81.2 Англ-4

М 96

Murphy, Raymond.

М 96 **Essential grammar in use: a self-study reference and practice book for elementary students of English (with answers) / R. Murphy.** – Tashkent: «ART FLEX» Publishing House, 2020. – 272 p.

УДК 811.111'36 (075)

ББК 81.2 Англ-4

ISBN 978-5-7261-0243-6
ISBN 978-9943-301-89-4

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O'ZBEKISTON RESPUBLIKASI
OLII VA O'RTA MAXSUS TA'LIM VAZIRLIGI
TOSHKENT VILOYATI CHIRCHIQ
DAVLAT PEDAGOGIKA INSTITUTI
AXBOROT RESURS MARKAZI

Published by the Press Syndicate of the University of Cambridge
The Pitt Building, Trumpington Street, Cambridge CB2 1RP
40 West 20th Street, New York, NY 10011 – 4211, USA
10 Stamford Road, Oakleigh, Melbourne 3166, Australia

© Cambridge University Press 1990

First published 1990
Ninth printing 1994

Printed in Great Britain
at the University Press, Cambridge

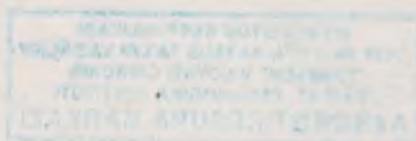
British Library cataloguing in publication data

Murphy, Raymond, 1946 –
Essential grammar in use: a self-study reference and
practice book for elementary students of English: with answers
1. English language. Grammar
1. Title
428.2

ISBN 0 521 35770 5 (with answers)
ISBN 0 521 35771 3 (without answers)

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To the student (working without a teacher)

This is a grammar book for elementary students of English. There are 107 units in the book and each unit is about a different point of English grammar. There is a list of units at the beginning of the book (*Contents*).

Do not study all the units in order from beginning to end. It is better to choose the units that you *need* to do. For example, if you have a problem with the present perfect ('have done' / 'have been' etc.), use the *Index* (at the back of the book) to find the unit(s) you need to study (Units 15 – 19).

Each unit is two pages. The explanation is on the left-hand page and the exercises on the right.

Explanation

UNIT 82 older than ... more expensive than ...

82.1 Write sentences about Li and Ben. Use *than*.

1 I'm 25.
2 I'm a very good swimmer.
3 I'm a member of the club.
4 I don't work at 8.30.
5 I don't work very hard.
6 I haven't got much money.
7 I'm a very good dancer.
8 I'm not very friendly.
9 I'm not a very good dancer.
10 I'm very intelligent.
11 I speak French very well.
12 I don't go to the cinema very much.

82.2 Complete the sentences. Use *than*.

1 He isn't very tall. You're taller than him (get ... than he is).
2 He isn't very old. He's younger than you.
3 He isn't very rich. He's poorer than you.
4 He doesn't smoke very much. You smoke more than him.
5 He doesn't have many people. You have more people than him.
6 He isn't a very good swimmer. You swim better than him.
7 He isn't very intelligent. You're more intelligent than him.
8 He isn't very friendly. You're friendlier than him.

82.3 Complete the sentences with a bit or much + a comparative (older/fatter etc.).

1 John is 25. Mary is 28. John is **a bit** older than Mary.
2 Jack's mother is 50. My father is 60. Jack's mother is **a bit** younger than my father.
3 My car is 1990. Yours is 1985. My car is **a bit** newer than yours.
4 Yesterday I felt terrible. Today I feel **a bit** better.
5 Today the temperature is 12 degrees. Yesterday it was 10 degrees. Today it's **a bit** warmer than yesterday.
6 He's a fantastic tennis player. I'm not very good. He's **a bit** better than me.

UNIT 82 Exercises

82.1 Write sentences about Li and Ben. Use *than*.

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Exercises

Use the book in this way:

- 1 Look in the *Contents* and / or *Index* to find the unit(s) you need.
- 2 Study the left-hand page (explanation and information).
- 3 Do the exercises on the right-hand page (if you want to do them).
- 4 Use the *Key* to check your answers.
- 5 Study the left-hand page again if necessary.

Don't forget the six *Appendices* at the back of the book (pages 216-223). These will give you information about irregular verbs, short forms, spelling and phrasal verbs.

To the teacher

The most important features of this book are:

- It is a grammar book. It deals only with grammar and is therefore not intended to be a general course book.
- It is a book for elementary learners. It does not cover areas of grammar which are not normally taught at elementary level.
- It combines reference and exercises in one volume.
- It can be used either for self-study or as supplementary course material.

Organisation of the book

There are 107 units in the book, each one focusing on a particular area of grammar. The material is organised in grammatical categories, such as tenses, modal verbs, questions, pronouns, articles, adjectives and prepositions. Units are *not* ordered according to difficulty, and should therefore be selected and used in the order appropriate for the learner(s). The book should *not* be worked through from beginning to end. The units are listed in the *Contents* and there is a comprehensive *Index* at the end of the book.

Each unit has the same format consisting of two facing pages. The point is explained on the left-hand page and the corresponding exercises are on the right. There are six *Appendices* (pages 216 – 223) dealing with irregular verbs, short forms (contractions), spelling and phrasal verbs. It might be useful for teachers to draw students' attention to these.

Finally, there is a *Key* at the back of the book (pages 224 – 253) for students to check their answers. An edition without the *Key* is also available for teachers who might prefer their students to use this.

Level

The book is intended for elementary learners, i.e. learners with very little English, but I would not expect it to be used from the first day of a course for complete beginners. It is intended mainly for elementary students who are beyond the very earliest stages of a beginners' course. It could also be used by lower-intermediate students whose grammar is weaker than other aspects of their English or who have problems with particular areas of 'elementary' grammar.

The explanations are addressed to the elementary student and are therefore as simple and as short as possible. The vocabulary used in the examples and exercises has also been restricted so that the book can be used at this level.

Using the book

The book can be used by students working alone (see '*To the student*,' page viii) or as supplementary course material. In either case the book can serve as an elementary grammar reference book.

When used as course material, the book can be used for immediate

consolidation or for later revision or remedial work. It might be used by the whole class or by individual students needing extra help.

In some cases it may be desirable to use the left-hand pages (explanation) in class, but it should be noted that these have been written more for private study and reference. In most cases, it is probably better for the teacher to present the grammar point in his / her preferred way with the exercises being done for homework. The left-hand page is then available for later reference by the student.

A teacher might prefer to keep the book for revision and remedial work. In this case, individual students or groups of students can be directed to the appropriate units for self-study.