

5 THINGS YOU DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT

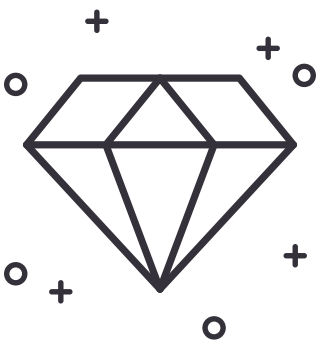
GRAMMAR

GRAMMAR RULES DON'T GIVE ALL THE EXPLANATIONS



The problem with the assumption that learning a language simply requires you to "learn the rules" for all the grammar and then fill in the blanks, is that it fails to account for anomalies of how language is actually used.

SOMETIMES WE DON'T NEED GRAMMAR



The central meaning of any message is communicated, not by grammar, but by content words: namely nouns, verbs, adjectives and adverbs.

GRAMMAR IS EMPLOYED TO OVERCOME DISTANCE, NOT ACHIEVE ACCURACY



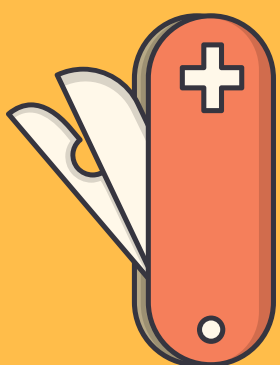
Grammar is a tool we use to reflect our appreciation of the differences in "distance" between speakers or situations we talk about, rather than something we need to talk correctly.

GRAMMAR IS A PROCESS, NOT A PRODUCT



The selection of the "correct" grammar is the result of a process of choices we make, rather than the product of correct knowledge of rules.

GRAMMAR IS AN EMERGENT PHENOMENON THAT DOES NOT HAVE RULES



The grammar we learn emerges as a result of a series of inference-based processes that rely on feedback from examples we've already encountered and feedback from those around us.