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The Rudiments of English Grammar: Adapted to the Use of Schools; with Notes and Observations, for the Use of Those Who Have Made Some Proficiency in the Language

By Joseph Priestley

Cambridge Library Collection, United Kingdom, 2013.

Paperback. Book Condition: New. 216 x 140 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.

The English polymath Joseph Priestley (1733-1804) defined grammar as nothing more complicated than a system of rules for the correct use of language. This enlarged second edition of his influential 1761 textbook first appeared in 1769; it had by then established him as one of the major grammarians of his age. With little patience for the confusing and superfluous application of Latin rules to English, Priestley champions a simple style of grammatical explanation here, questioning even such fundamental concepts as an English future tense. The text follows a clear question-and-answer structure designed for students. Priestley's determination to modernise the teaching of English and to promote usage as the crucial linguistic standard remain relevant today. A companion work, *A Course of Lectures on the Theory of Language and Universal Grammar* (1762), is also reissued in this series, along with other works by Priestley ranging in coverage from oratory to oxygen.



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