

ACT Grammar Prep Learnstrong.net Video Lectures

Lecture 1: The Intro Lecture: What we will and won't learn:

1. Welcome to 10 lectures designed to help you learn formal English grammar and prep for the ACT!
2. In this first of two intro lectures we'll try to answer the question, "Why learn this crap?" and in the next lecture we'll outline what we mean when we even use the term "Grammar"
3. These talks are designed for students who want to improve their knowledge of basic English grammar, and prepare for any kind of standardized tests where there might be questions about English Grammar
4. Our primary focus will be to help students prepare to take the ACT
5. A few thoughts about the ACT:
 - a. It is NOT an intelligence test! (Note my student: "I got a 16... I'm dumb!")
 - b. It tests your ability to take a test!... the better prepared you are, the better you will do
 - c. Note my word picture of the student running to Thermop! (You can do it, but it's going to take a lot of training!)
 - d. The key to understanding the ACT:
 - i. It's a 3 Hour READING test! (Apart from the writing section you are READING the WHOLE time!)
 - ii. If you are NOT a reader of the kinds of stuff on the ACT then you WILL struggle (Consider energy conservation model!)
 - iii. There are multiple sections of the ACT: We will only be focusing on the Grammar and Usage part of the ACT in this series of lectures.
 - iv. The ACT will NEVER ask you to define a grammar rule: but will test your ability to identify grammar mistakes in a sentence!
 - v. That's why learning grammar rules is of little value if you don't know how the grammar rules WORK!
6. The MOST important thing about these lectures is that you must WANT to learn something you can ACTUALLY use or they will be a waste of your time.
7. There is little value in memorizing lots of rules to prepare for the ACT's grammar section. It's more important to be able to USE the rules you know. (We define learning as the ability to CONNECT new info to old!)
8. Learning these basic grammar rules will help you also with your writing and with your speaking.
9. A final comment about "Grammar Snobs"... we ALL know these types...they will HATE these lectures because they will say we are not going into enough detail... or we are not treating the subject seriously enough...but we don't care what they think!
10. Let's approach our study with a curious mind and try to even have a little fun doing this grammar thing...
 - a. Notice: Germans speak German; Russians speak Russian; Americans speak... NOT American but English (as do the English!)
 - b. Notice: to say "I hate grammar" you have to actually USE grammar!... see you for lecture 2!