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**JELENA VUJIĆ: DESCRIBING ENGLISH
TROUGH THEORY AND PRACTICE****

Prikaz

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The first edition of Dr Vujić's book represents a welcome contribution to the area of English grammar. It consists of Introduction, two chapters: 1 GRAMMAR – GENERAL CONCEPTS, 2 VERB PHRASE, four appendices: APPENDIX I, APPENDIX II, APPENDIX III, APPENDIX IV and REFERENCES.

In Introduction, the author states that 'this book represents a practical guide through grammar of the English language, or at least the part of English grammar, that studies and describes various forms, aspects, meanings as well as different usage of English verb phrase'. It is designed to provide a practical guide to the first year students of English at the Department of English Language and Literature, at the Faculty of Philology, Belgrade University. However, this book can be useful to other users wishing to gain insight into the system of English verbs, in particular. Each topic is described from two points of view: first, an outline of a particular topic is presented followed by a series of practical exercises, the result of the author's five-year practical experience with students in academic environment.

Chapter 1 GRAMMAR – GENERAL ASPECTS consists of six sub-chapters. Dr Vujić introduces the term Standard English, then explains what grammar is and continues by outlining basic grammatical concepts such as word classes, parts of speech, phrase and clause types, basic syntactic phrase. Phrase, clause and sentence are separately defined and classified. Chapter 1 closes with grammatical categories. Grammar concepts are clearly explained and illustrated by useful examples. What follows are practical exercises which reflect an eclectic approach.

Chapter 2 VERB PHRASE provides a detailed insight into the system of English verbs in twelve sub-chapters. Dr Vujić analyses morphology of a verb phrase by describing productive prefixes and suffixes for verb-formation, compounding in verbs, conversion, back-derivation in verbs. Readers then learn about syntactic functions of a verb-phrase, and tense. In describing aspect, Dr

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Vujić devotes particular space to perfective aspect as well as non-finite verbs forms representing problematic issues. Gerund, modal verbs, expressing future time, mood, conditionals, voice and speech representation and backshift constitute the remaining concepts of the final chapter. Some exercises are focused on formal properties and structure of verb forms, the others concentrate on their (often multiple) meanings. One of the most appealing features of this chapter are the exercises which sum up what has previously been described in detail, such as REVIEW OF VERB FORMS (Ex. 80) and CONSOLIDATION OF ALL VERB FORMS (Ex. 105).

In APPENDIX I, Dr Vujić offers Pronunciation and graphemeic rules for grammatical suffixes in English verbs. APPENDIX II provides a List of verbs and phrases followed by gerunds. The complete list of Irregular verbs may be found in APPENDIX III and a very useful GLOSSARY with the key grammar terms forms APPENDIX IV.

The strength of the book lies in the author's creativity, evidenced by the engaging activities found throughout Chapters 1 and 2. Items in the exercises are intended to promote vocabulary development, to be thought-provoking and witty. Many tasks require students to be not only creative and imaginative but to put all their language skills in motion. It is to realize the importance of learning the grammatical description of English by showing them practical aspects of applied grammar. We are looking forward to Part two of this book.