

# Grammar Translation Method

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**Quel est votre nom?**

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**Quel est votre nom?**

**What is your name?**

# Definition of GTM

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- A Grammar Translation Method is a method of foreign or second language teaching which makes use of translation and grammar study as the main teaching and learning activities.
- GTM is the oldest method of teaching.
- It is also known as classical or traditional method of teaching.
- It was originally used to teach dead languages (and literatures) such as Latin and Greek.

# Key Features

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- Focus on reading and writing
- Classes are taught in the mother tongue, with little active use of the target language.
- The meaning of target language(L2) is made clear by translating it into students native language(L1).
- Much vocabulary is taught in the form of lists of isolated words.
- Long elaborate explanations of the intricacies of grammar are given.
- Grammar provides the rules for putting words together, and instruction often focuses on the form and inflection of words.
- In GTM, teacher teaches the grammar rules then give examples.

# Key Features

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- A fundamental goal for students is to be able to translate one language into the other.
- Classes are teacher-centered.
- Memorization of grammar rules, grammatical paradigms and vocabulary.
- The student's native language is the medium of instruction. It is used to explain new items and to enable comparisons to be made between the foreign language and the student's native language.

# Techniques used in Grammar Translation Classroom

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- Translation of literacy passage-from L2 to L1,teacher works with students on vocabulary using native language.
- Reading comprehension questions-students answer questions about the passage,teacher calls out each student to read their answers and corrects them.
- Antonyms and synonyms-student translates the word list and try to find synonym and antonyms.
- Cognates-similarities between L1 and L2 are emphasized.

# Techniques used in Grammar Translation Classroom

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- Deductive application of grammar-grammar rules are presented first then applied to exercises.
- Fill in the blanks-with new vocabulary or grammatical item.
- Memorization-word list,new vocabulary and translation etc.



# Merits of GTM

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- Easy – as it does not require any preparation and hardly any teaching aids.
- Economical – as time, money, efforts are saved.
- Useful and very suitable for a large crowd.
- Helps in the testing and increasing the comprehension of the students of the content of the passage or lesson.
- Known to unknown – Follows an important maxim for better understanding and effective learning.

# Merits of GTM

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- It is one of the fastest and quickest methods of teaching English.
- By telling the meaning of the word or sentence in mother tongue, the teacher can at once make the students understand.
- The students are able to learn many items of English by comparison with mother tongue.
- Knowledge is acquired gradually, by traversing the facts of language and the syntactic mechanisms, going from simplest to the most complex.
- Learning grammar, the students examine the texts developing awareness that language constitutes a system which can be analysed.

# Demerits of GTM

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- It is largely dependent on the text.
- Listening and speaking skills are ignored.
- It is not applicative based as does not emphasis the practical use of the language.
- It helps to develop the vocabulary of the mother tongue but not the target language.
- Students are passive learners and not active learners as they are mainly only listening.

# Demerits of GTM

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- More importance is given to theoretical knowledge than practical knowledge.
- Translation is limited to the vocabulary of the mother tongue.
- May lead to confusion as the sentence formation in the two language would be different.

# Educational Implication

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- It can be successfully used at higher educational institutions for teaching foreign language for professional communication, but it must be combined with other methods.
- The teachers should use variety of methods to teach a second language as each student is unique and will respond well to a particular method.
- A good teacher should make use of the items that he or she has and the learning styles of the students.
- Adapting your style of your class can be an effective teaching method.

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Thank You.