

**Making sense
of grammar**

**A guide for
English teachers**



Making sense of grammar: A guide for English teachers

Developed in direct response to member feedback, this interactive four-workshop online series gives English teachers the knowledge and practical strategies to teach grammar with clarity and confidence. Moving from foundational concepts through to reading, writing and feedback, each workshop connects grammar directly to classroom practice and curriculum expectations – so teachers can apply their learning straight away.

This series is for English teachers who:

- need a refresher of foundational grammar concepts
- are looking for a starting point in understanding grammar
- are looking to embed grammar instruction into a specific scope and sequence
- need some support in introducing grammar concepts to students

All workshops will be highly interactive with participants encouraged to contribute, collaborate and ask questions. Teachers of all year levels and experience are welcome.

About the presenter

This series will be delivered by teacher, education consultant and author Hayley Harrison from Connect Literacy. Hayley has spent her career teaching in secondary classrooms and working alongside teachers and leaders across Australia to understand the literacy demands of their subjects and the ways they can explicitly teach, support, consolidate, transfer and extend student literacy skills and confidence within their school contexts.



Overview of the program

All workshops will be delivered via Zoom from 4–5:30pm.

The workshops will be recorded for registered participants only.

Tuesday 28 April	The language of grammar
Thursday 14 May	Grammar in reading
Monday 25 May	Grammar in writing
Wednesday 17 June	Grammar feedback

Registration cost

Concession \$280 | Individual \$290 | Organisational \$300 – Prices are per staff member and inc. GST.

If financial barriers impact your attendance, email [Kate Gillespie](mailto:Kate.Gillespie) to discuss options.

Workshop information

1 The language of grammar

This workshop begins with an overview of the function of grammar and alternate approaches to teaching grammar, before introducing all the key syntactic elements and word classes to be explored throughout the workshops. Beyond the activating and assessing of prior knowledge, this workshop will focus on identifying the grammar expectations within the Australian Curriculum and where these expectations sit in a current unit of work that participants will bring to the workshop.

Workshop overview:

- The importance of having a language to talk about language
- Competing approaches to grammar instruction
- Introduction to parts of speech/word classes
- Introduction to syntactic elements
- Grammar in the curriculum

2 Grammar in reading

This workshop begins with an overview of common grammatical elements impacting student reading development, before exploring the ways grammar can assist in reading instruction more broadly. By working through five key grammatical focus points, this workshop will identify and explore reading activities that use grammatical concepts to unpack different types of reading in the English classroom.

Workshop overview:

- Reading issues
- Grammar in reading instruction
- Using subject/predicate to identify main ideas
- Using clauses/phrases to 'find the details'
- Using sentence structure to see priorities
- Using cohesive devices to understand connections
- Other potential grammatical considerations when reading

3 Grammar in writing

This workshop begins with an overview of common grammatical elements impacting student writing development, before exploring the ways grammar can assist in writing instruction more broadly. By working through five key grammatical focus points, this workshop will identify and explore writing activities that use grammatical concepts to construct different texts, while building writing fluency, confidence, cohesion and clarity.

Workshop overview:

- Writing development issues
- Grammar in writing instruction
- Using subject/predicate to shift priorities in a sentence
- Using clauses and phrases to add depth and detail
- Using sentence structure to build expression and increase confidence/fluency
- Using cohesive devices to build flow and cohesion
- Other potential grammatical considerations when writing

4 Grammar feedback

Begins with an overview of common writing errors, before exploring different ways to provide and engage students with grammatical feedback. By initially working through five common writing errors and connecting these to independent study activities that support development, this workshop will focus on revising and editing strategies that can be applied to any writing task.

Workshop overview:

- When things go wrong – common writing errors
- Providing grammar feedback
- Revising and editing strategies for the class, small groups and individual
- Beyond these workshops: Into the next unit