

Grammar questions

The author says that the following statements are often regarded as true, but that she wants to challenge them. Can you remember or find in the reading how each statement is challenged, or can you think of why the statement may not always be 100% true?

Go down the list of statements with your partner and discuss the truth and falsehoods of each statement. Use the reading text as a reference is needed.

1. Grammar is an area of knowledge.
2. When we say something is grammatical, we mean that it is accurate.
3. Grammar has to do with rules.
4. Grammar is arbitrary. (There is no reason for the rules)
5. One good thing about grammar is that there is always one right answer.
6. Grammar has to do with word order within sentences and structures, such as word endings or morphology.
7. Grammar is acquired naturally; it doesn't have to be taught.
8. Grammar structures are acquired in a set order, one after another.
9. All aspects of grammar are learned the same way.
10. Learners will eventually bring their performance into alignment with the target language, error correction or feedback is unnecessary.
11. Grammar (teaching and/or learning) is boring.
12. Not all students need to be taught grammar. Children for instance, do not benefit from formal grammar instruction.