



Welcome to the Macmillan Days

Jonathan Coxall
Bergamo, 6th March 2009



Grammar in action

A: Coffee?

B: Please

A: Milk? Sugar?

B: No milk. One sugar. Thanks

A: Toast?

B: No thanks.

A: Juice?

B: Mmm



Grammar in action

Cary Grant is alleged to have found the following telegram on his agent's desk:

HOW OLD CARY GRANT?

OLD CARY GRANT OK, HOW YOU?



Grammar in action

Distance (social, contextual)

—————→
gesture → lexis → grammar



Getting *Inside Grammar*

Jonathan Coxall



Defining grammar?

- Rules about sentence formation, tenses, verb patterns, etc. in a reference book
- The moment-by-moment structuring of what we say as it is being spoken
- Exercises (fill in the gap, multiple choice, etc.) about tenses, etc
- Our internal “database” as to what are possible or impossible sentences



Making “grammar” a verb

To learn a language.....

Be exposed to a lot of language

Notice specific items being used, in texts etc...

Understand the **form**, **meaning** and **use** of an item.

Try things out with limited other linguistic demands.

Have opportunities to practise new language

Use the new language

Remember items.

....we need to.....

provide reading and listening work in and out of class

Provide opportunities to notice specific items

Focus the sts attention on form

Give activities with restricted language when speaking and writing

Offer tasks that allow sts to use all of the language they know

Teach sts record items well

Use – the pyramid effect



Making “grammar” a verb

Restricted

Authentic

INPUT



Restricted INPUT

Hi Isobel,

Just a quick message from the beach. I'm **(a)** *on* holiday with my brother at the moment. We arrived **(b)** Saturday and we are staying **(c)** Friday – seven days of sun! We swim and sunbathe **(d)** the mornings and have a barbecue lunch **(e)** 2.00 p.m. Then we play water sports **(f)** 3.00 p.m. **(g)** 7.00 p.m. **(h)** the evenings we go out for dinner. Everything is great! The only problem is that I can't sleep **(i)** night because it's very hot in our apartment.

See you soon,

Sophie



Authentic INPUT

Carry You Home - James Blunt

- a. her only back and is again Trouble he's friend
- b. body than Makes is older her really it
- c. away she high it's went time And says she
- d. got say much town one has to this in No
- e. is only way down, Trouble down the down, is



Carry You Home - James Blunt

- a. Trouble is her only friend and he's back again
- b. Makes her body older than it really is
- c. And she says it's high time she went away
- d. No one has got much to say in this town
- e. Trouble is the only way is down, down, down.



Making “grammar” a verb

Restricted
Authentic

INPUT

Understanding

LEARNING



Understanding

- a) Dove stavi andando ieri quando ti ho visto?
- b) Stavo lavando i piatti quando ho sentito un rumore.
- c) Splendeva il sole mentre giocavamo a palla.
- d) Ieri, mentre andavo al pub, ho visto un incidente d'auto.



Making “grammar” a verb

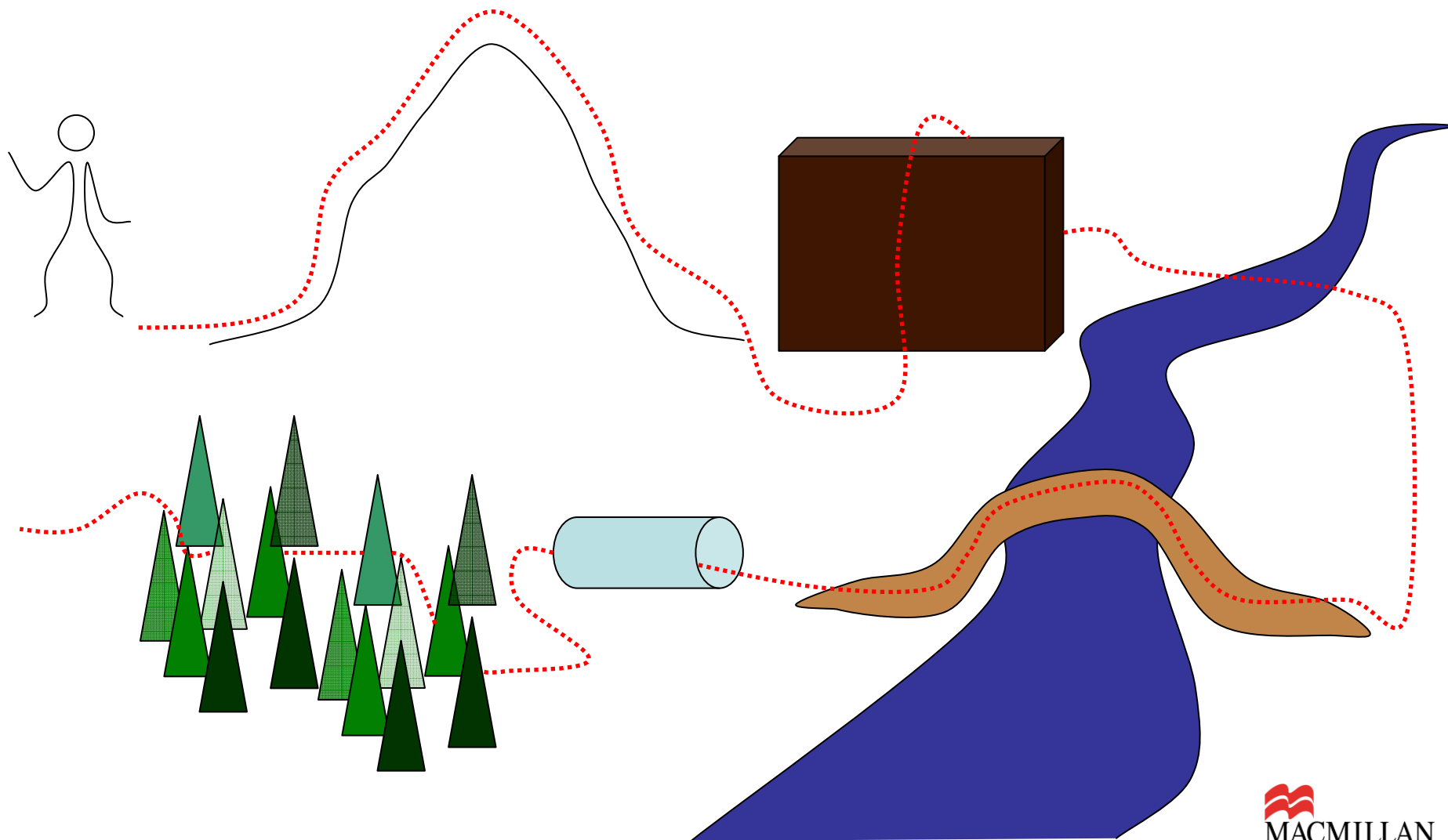
Restricted
Authentic

INPUT

Understanding
Memory

LEARNING

Language in use



Making “grammar” a verb

Restricted
Authentic

INPUT

Understanding
Memory
Reflection

LEARNING



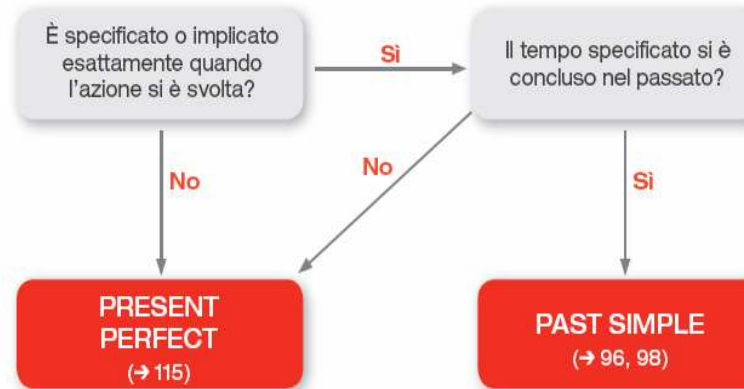
Reflection

Into the Wild

Kung Fu
Panda

Revolutionary
Road

Present Perfect o Past Simple?



I/you/we/they + have + participio passato
he/she/it + has + participio passato

We have talked (today).
 She has spoken (today).

I/you/we/they + haven't + participio passato
he/she/it + hasn't + participio passato

We haven't talked (today).
 She hasn't spoken (today).

Have + I/you/we/they + participio passato + ?
Has + he/she/it + participio passato + ?

Have we talked (today)?
 Has she spoken (today)?

VERBI REGOLARI: Soggetto + verbo + -ed
 VERBI IRREGOLARI: Soggetto + forma passata

We talked yesterday.
 She spoke yesterday.

VERBI REGOLARI: Soggetto + *didn't* + verbo
 VERBI IRREGOLARI: Soggetto + *didn't* + verbo

We didn't talk yesterday.
 She didn't speak yesterday.

VERBI REGOLARI: *Did* + Soggetto + verbo + ?
 VERBI IRREGOLARI: *Did* + Soggetto + verbo + ?

Did we talk yesterday?
 Did she speak yesterday?



Reflection

Leggi il dialogo e sottolinea l'opzione corretta.

STEVE So Paul, what about a film this evening? (a) Have you seen|*Did you see War of Words* yet?

PAUL Yes, (b) *I've seen*|*I saw* it last week.

STEVE What about *The Moon over Juliet*? (c) *Have you seen*|*Did you see* it?

PAUL No, (d) *I haven't*|*I didn't*. What's it about?

STEVE It's about a teacher who works with a girl with psychological problems. They **fall in love.**

PAUL Oh no, not a love story. (e) *I've been*|*I went* to see *Katie and Bobbie* last Thursday with my girlfriend. All love and romance. No thanks, not again.

STEVE OK. What about *Jack the Knife*? **It's about** the war in Iraq.

PAUL Is the director Bob Martin? (f) *I've seen*|*I saw* some of his films. Very good.

STEVE Yes, it's Bob Martin. (g) *Have you watched*|*Did you watch* his film *Red Sea* on TV last Friday?

PAUL Yes, (h) *it's been*|*it was* great.

STEVE OK, let's see that then.



Noticing language

to be about – parla di ...

Into the Wild is about

What's it about?



Making “grammar” a verb

Restricted
Authentic

INPUT

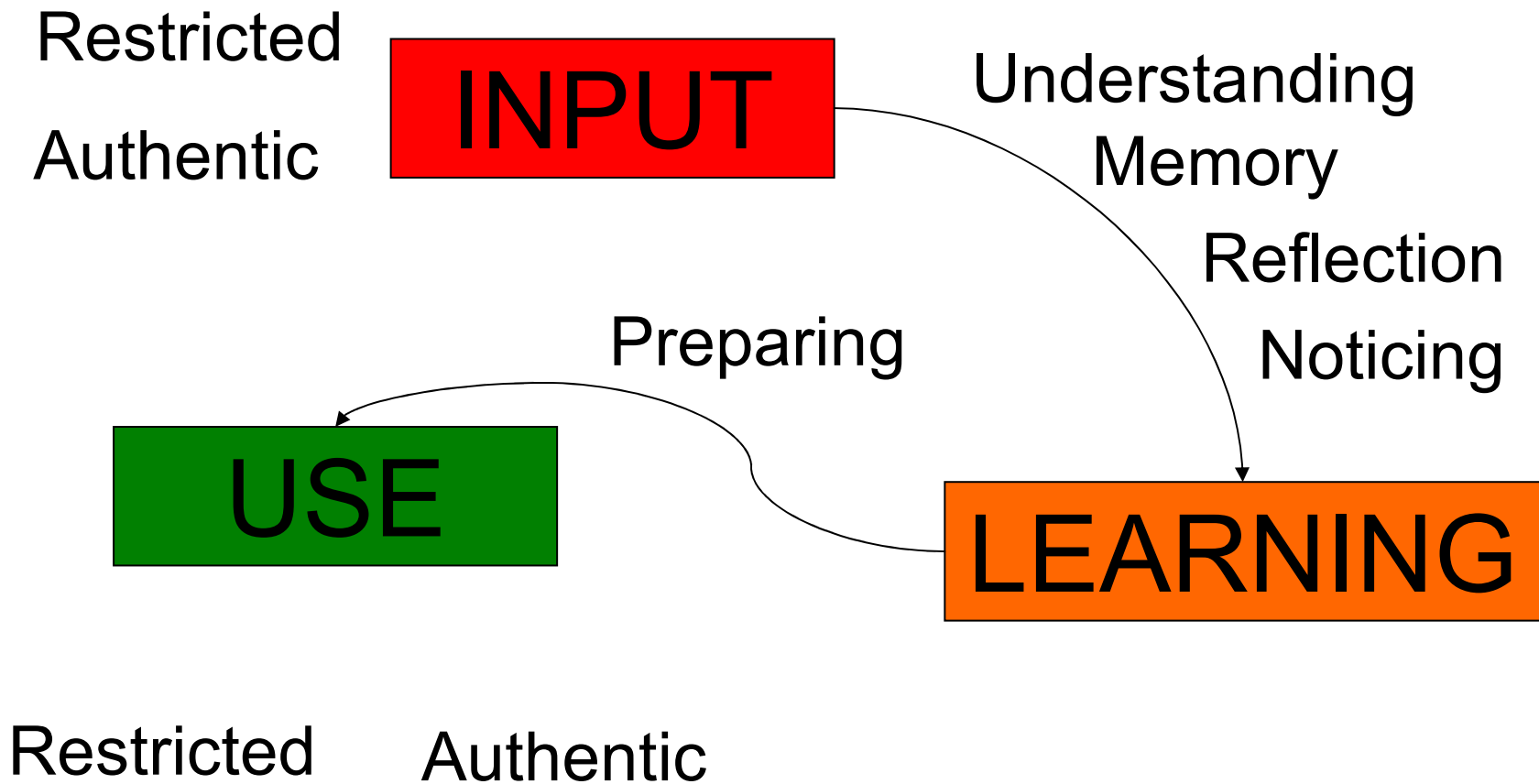
Understanding
Memory

Reflection
Noticing

LEARNING



Making “grammar” a verb



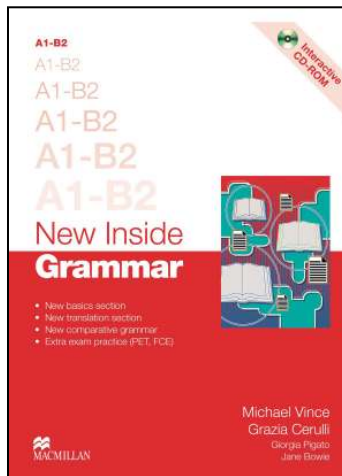
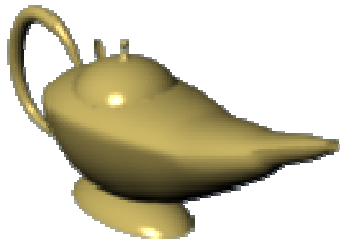
Restricted and authentic USE

Inserisci l'aggettivo possessivo.

Hi! (a) *my* name is Anna Moraga. I'm American, but (b) *his* parents are from Peru and (c) *her* relatives are still there. I'm 19 years old. (d) *My* hobbies are dancing and reading. (e) *His* brother is 20. (f) *His* name is José. (g) *Mine* sister Maria is 15 and is still at school. (h) *My* school is 30 minutes from (i) *our* house. (j) *Your* father is a travel agent.

Hi! (a) *my* name is _____. I'm _____, but/and (b) _____ parents are (also) from _____. I'm _____ years old. (c) _____ hobbies are _____ and _____. (d) _____ brother is _____. (e) _____ name is _____. (f) _____ sister _____ is _____ years old. (g) _____ school is 30 minutes from (h) _____ house. (i) _____ father is a _____, and my mother works as a _____.

What have they got in common?





Jonathan Coxall

didattica@multimethod.it