

LEARNING GRAMMAR BY LYRIC OF ENGLISH SONGS AS EASY METHOD TO IMPROVE THE USE OF INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGE

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Abstract

Grammar is rules for forming words and making sentences. It needs to use correctly in daily English speaking and academic writing. The use of grammar for non native English learner is quite difficult. They do not only need to memorize all the formulas but also they have to apply grammar in their sentences. Therefore, there is one easy method for beginner to learn grammar by lyric of English Songs. This method works by analyzing each sentence in lyric of songs. It comes to be easy because learner can do their hobby in listening music while learning the English grammar. This paper will use library research to analyze deeply about improving ability in learning grammar by lyric of English Songs especially on verb tenses. There are many verb tenses analyzed in some lyric of English songs that will be discussed in this paper.

Keywords: learning grammar, English song, easy method, international language

Introduction

Nowadays, the use of international language can not be separated from our environment. It can be seen from how many advertisements that use English as the language. In many public places, the information board usually consist at least two languages, first using local language and the second using international language that is English. English becomes more popular every day. This condition seems like force everybody must be able to use it. However, to master this language, people need to learn the formulas because each language has its own formulas. In this case, English has grammar. Grammar is rules for forming words and making sentences.

The importance of learning grammar in studying English is undeniable. It needs to help learners to know about how to formulate words or sentences in English. As a beginner or elementary learners, easy method in learning grammar will be very useful. By using it, the formulas of grammar will be easily memorized. This method can be taken from analyzing lyrics of English songs to learn grammar.

Song is popular with its benefits. It is not only entertain the listener but also it can be the tool to learn something for example English grammar. The song that is going to talk in this paper is English songs because this paper would like to analyze how English songs can be easy method to learn grammar. This method is going to be easy because many people especially teenagers love to listen music. Thus, while enjoying the music or song, they can also memorize the formula of English grammar by its lyrics. This research is expected can help English beginner learners to learn English grammar especially on verb tenses. In addition, this method can enrich the way teacher teaches English grammar to the students through English songs.

Finding and Discussion

According to a book by Betty Schramper Azar entitled *Understanding and Using English Grammar* (1989), it is briefly explained about twelve kinds of verb tenses in English. They are settled in four conditions: the simple tenses, the progressive tenses, the perfect tenses, and the perfect progressive tenses. Then each of them is divided into three parts. They belong to the present, past, and future. Those are the whole verb tenses in grammar that English learners need to learn. Yet, there will be only some examples of verb tenses that will be discussed in this paper.

The simple tenses is the first tenses that English beginner learners can learn. In Simple present tense, it uses the main verb/base form of the verb (infinitive without *to*). In general, the simple present expresses events or situations that exist always, usually, habitually; they exist now, have existed in the past, and probably will exist in the future (Azar, 1989:2).

Form: Subject + verb + rest of sentence.

The example can be seen in the lyric of song as follows:

Hey, I was doing just fine before I met you
I drink too much and **that's an issue**
 But I'm OK
 Hey, **you tell your friends** it was nice to meet them
 But **I hope I never see them**
 Again

I know it breaks your heart
 Moved to the city in a broke-down car
 And four years, no calls
 Now you're looking pretty in a hotel bar
 And I, I, I, I, I can't stop
 No, I, I, I, I, I can't stop

So, baby, pull me closer
 In the back seat of your Rover
 That I know you can't afford
 Bite that tattoo on your shoulder
 Pull the sheets right off the corner
 Of that mattress that you stole
 From your roommate back in Boulder
 We ain't ever getting older

We ain't ever getting older
 We ain't ever getting older

You look as good as the day I met you
I forget just why I left you,
 I was insane
 Stay and play that Blink-182 song
 That we beat to death in Tucson,
 OK
 (*Closer* by The chainsmoker feat Halsey, 2016)

According to the formula, the bold sentences above can be classified as a simple present tense form. The analysis is going to be this following:

Form: Subject + verb + rest of sentence.

Example: I know it breaks your heart

Explanation: I(as the subject of the sentence) know(as the main verb of the sentence)it breaks your heart(as the rest of the sentence).

The second verb tense is simple past. At one particular time in the past, this happened. It began and ended in the past (Azar, 1989:2).

Form: Subject + verb 2 + rest of sentence.

The example can be seen in the lyric of song as follows:

I let my soul fall into you
I never thought I'd fall right through
I fell for every word you said
You made me feel I needed you
And forced my heart to think it's true
But **I found** I'm powerless with you

Now I don't need your wings to fly
No, I don't need a hand to hold in mine this time
You held me down, but I broke free
I found the love inside of me
Now I don't need a hero to survive
Cause I already saved my life
Cause I already saved my life

I fell into your fantasy
But that's all our love will ever be
I lost hope in saving you and me
You think I'm lost, falling apart
But your lies just made a stronger heart
My life is just about to start
(*Hero* by Christina Perri, 2016)

According to the formula, the bold sentences above can be classified as a simple past tense form. The analysis is going to be this following:

Form: Subject + verb 2 + rest of sentence.

Example: I found the love inside of me

Analysis: I(as the subject of the sentence)**found**(as the verb 2 of the sentence)**the love inside of me**(as the rest of the sentence).

The other verb tense is simple future tense. It explains about one particular time in the future this will happen (Azar, 1989:2).

Form: Subject + will + verb + rest of sentence.

The example can be seen in the lyric of song as the following:

I knew I loved you then
But you'd never know
'Cause I played it cool when I was scared of letting go
I knew I needed you
But I never showed
But I wanna stay with you

Until we're grey and old
Just say you won't let go
Just say you won't let go

I wake you up with some breakfast in bed
I'll bring you coffee
With a kiss on your head
And I'll take the kids to school
Wave them goodbye
And I'll thank my lucky stars for that night

When you looked over your shoulder
For a minute, I forget that I'm older
I wanna dance with you right now, oh
And you look as beautiful as ever
And I swear that every day you'll get better
You make me feel this way somehow
(*Say you wont let go* by James Arthur, 2016)

According to the formula, the bold sentences above can be classified as a simple future tense form. The analysis is going to be this following:

Form: Subject + will + verb + rest of sentence.

Example: I'll thank my lucky stars for that night

Explanation: I(as the subject of the sentence)'ll(as statement will/indicate future)thank(as the verb of the sentence)my lucky stars for that night(as the rest of the sentence).

Conclusion

Verb tense is one of chapters in grammar that is most influential in constructing sentences.

It is important to apply it using English. Those analysis using formulas of English grammar and the sentences from lyric of songs are only some examples of how lyric of songs can be easy method to learn English grammar. By analyzing that many lyric of songs are constructed based on true formulas of verb tenses, English beginner learners can get easier to memorize verb tenses. Learner can enjoy every single music or song while learning the other positive side that is formula of verb tenses.

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