

GRAMMAR NOTES

Grammatical information is more essential for the person who is trying to speak or understand a foreign language than for the native speaker. Thus, it is not surprising that bilingual dictionaries should provide considerably more grammatical help than monolingual dictionaries for native speakers.

In this dictionary, information on the “grammar of words” is indeed exhaustive. In addition to the wide range of information included in the entry itself, there are also **grammar notes** exemplifying specific headwords or categories of words. If the note is short, it appears, on a grey background, at the beginning of the entry (see *our, ours, ourselves*). If it is longer, it is in a special box next to the entry itself (see the grammar note “*a*” in the Italian-English section).

Some of these notes are quite long (for example, in the Italian-English section the notes “*il – uso dell’articolo*”, “*1.dovere*” or “*1.potere*” and in the English-Italian section the notes “*be*” or “*have*”), but it is worth reading and understanding them as they combine in-depth vocabulary study with grammatical support. The notes clarify the more complex grammatical aspects of the words and/or provide further examples on usage especially in a contrastive way, thereby offering valuable material for classroom use. Grammar notes present relevant, clear and concise rules and guidelines, leaving complex and extensive explanations to the teacher, grammar or course book. Thus, they are not intended as an alternative to any of these, but rather as a supplement, providing more extensive illustration and exemplification of individual points. The notes make up a self-access system, for the purpose of the dictionary is to offer users the opportunity to find information on specific grammatical points on their own, in order to build up or consolidate their knowledge of the language.