



Davao del Sur State College
Brgy. Matti, Digos City, Davao del Sur

From Roots to Rules: A Comprehensive Journey through the Structure of English

LOUI JAY A. PITPIT, MAEd

Instructor
College of Teacher Education

&

GONZALO JR. U. INOJALES, MA

Instructor
College of Mathematics, Arts, and Sciences



From Roots to Rules:

**A Comprehensive
Journey through the
Structure of English**

Preface

Language is more than a medium for communication; it is a structured system shaped by history, human interaction, and cognitive organization. To study the structure of English is to uncover how meaning is formed, organized, and conveyed through patterns that often operate beneath conscious awareness. *From Roots to Rules: A Comprehensive Journey through the Structure of English* invites you to explore English not simply as a language you use, but as a complex and evolving system governed by principles that connect sounds, words, sentences, and discourse. This course begins with the foundational insight that English is historically layered and structurally organized. By tracing its development from Germanic origins through centuries of contact with other languages, you come to understand why English has its present form and richness. From the smallest units of meaning to extended texts, the course emphasizes that language is not random, but patterned. Understanding these patterns allows you to analyze English systematically rather than intuitively, transforming everyday language use into informed linguistic awareness.

As the course progresses, attention shifts from historical foundations to the internal mechanics of English. You examine how words are formed, how word classes function, and how sentences are constructed through relationships among subjects, predicates, clauses, and phrases. Special focus is given to morphology, syntax, sentence patterns, and verb systems, enabling you to see how grammatical choices shape meaning, emphasis, and clarity. These components are presented not as isolated topics, but as interconnected parts of a larger structural framework.

This course pack is designed to move beyond passive learning. Each module integrates explanation, analysis, and application through guided tasks, structured questions, and contextual examples. You are encouraged to break language apart, test patterns, and apply linguistic terminology accurately to real data. Through this process, you develop analytical skills that support academic study, teaching, and advanced research, while also deepening your understanding of how English functions in authentic contexts.

From Roots to Rules: A Comprehensive Journey through the Structure of English aims to refine how you perceive and engage with language. By the end of the course, you will not only recognize grammatical forms and structures, but also understand their function, origin, and significance. This course invites you to approach English with curiosity, precision, and critical insight, recognizing language as a dynamic system that reflects both human history and human thought.



TABLE OF CONTENTS

	PAGE
TITLE PAGE	i
PREFACE	ii
TABLE OF CONTENTS	iii
 MODULE 1: Structure of English: Roots, Forms, and Meaning.....	 1
Lesson 1: Introduction to the Structure of English.....	2
Lesson 2: Morphology: The Study of Word Structure.....	13
Lesson 3: Word Formation and Morphological Processes.....	22
Module Assessment	32
Module Summary	37
References	38
 MODULE 2: Structure of English: Word Classes in Action.....	 39
Lesson 1: Word Classes.....	40
Lesson 2: Nouns in Action: From Names to Nuances.....	60
Lesson 3: Pronouns: From Recognition to Creative Use.....	79
Module Assessment	92
Module Summary	97
References	97
 MODULE 3: Structure of English: Syntax in Motion.....	 98
Lesson 1: Mastering Verb Forms and Voices.....	99
Lesson 2: Phrases, Clauses, and Sentences: Structures and Functions.....	122
Lesson 3: Sentences: Structure, Meaning, and Patterns.....	135
Module Assessment	148
Module Summary	151
References	151
 MODULE 4: Structure of English: Inside Syntax.....	 152
Lesson 1: Word Categories and Grammatical Features.....	153
Lesson 2: Auxiliaries, Complementisers, and Structural Tests.....	168
Lesson 3: Core Principles of Syntactic Structure and X-Bar Theory.....	190
Module Assessment	204
Module Summary	210
References	210

