

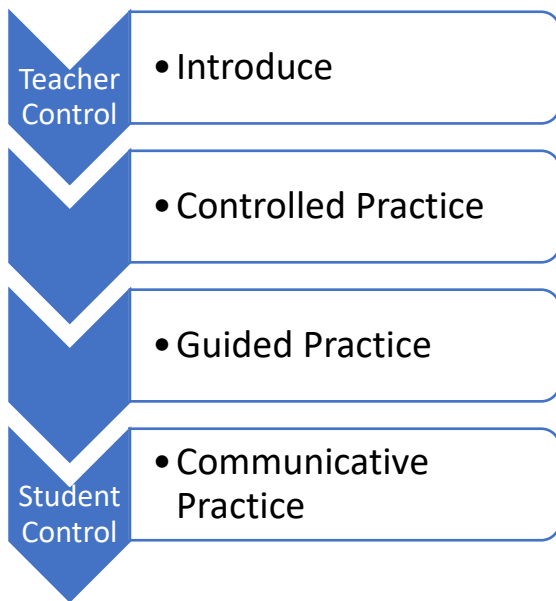
## Teaching Grammar in Context

### Knowledge vs Ability

“Central to a pedagogy of grammar instruction is the distinction between grammatical knowledge and grammatical ability. **Grammatical knowledge** refers to knowledge of the rules that account for grammatically correct language. Its unit of focus is the sentence. [Form] **Grammatical ability** refers to the ability to use grammar as a communicative resource in spoken and written discourse and requires a different pedagogical approach (Jones, 2012). Its unit of focus is the text” (Richards & Reppen, 2014). [Function]

Teaching grammar in context means embedding the grammar practice in a real-life situation. Context can be provided at any stage in the communicative framework.

### Communicative Framework



Focus is on form.

- fill-in-the-blank, repetition drills, substitution drills

Focus is on form and meaning.

- language is controlled, students make meaningful choices

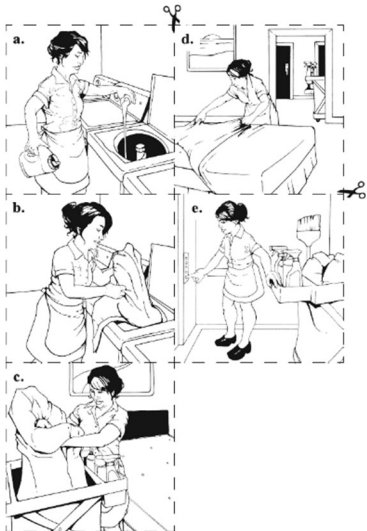
Focus is on form, meaning, and context

- real information is exchanged, language is not totally predictable, role plays, scenarios

#### PCM 10 UNIT ONE LESSON 3

Tell the story.

Look at the pictures. Put them in the right order. Tell the story to your class.



**To the Teacher** Variations: Have students work in pairs or small groups. Encourage them to write their stories. If necessary, record students' stories using LEA (Language Experience Approach) techniques.

### Controlled

1. Mary pours \_\_\_\_ into the \_\_\_\_.
2. She makes the \_\_\_\_.

### Guided

Mary	pour	the bed
	take	laundry detergent
The housekeeper	put	the laundry bag
	make	the sheets

### Communicative

1. Pretend you are a housekeeping manager. Give instructions to your new employee.
2. You are the new housekeeper. Take notes on the instructions you receive.

### Simple Present (do/does + base) the permanent

\* Facts, Repeated Actions (routines, habits)

every day, every week, once/twice a month  
on Mondays

Frequency adverbs

Non-action verbs (mental states, emotions, possession)

Daily/Weekly/Monthly Routines	(She buys groceries once a week.)
Describe Job Duties	(The cashier scans the items and takes money.)
Facts	(The library is on Main Street.)
Give Directions and Instructions	(Turn left on Central Avenue.)
Future Schedule for a Business	(The movie begins at 6:30pm.)

### Simple Past (did + base) the finished

\* Completed past actions (started in the past and ended in the past)

\* We often say when, specific time

yesterday, ago, last \_\_\_\_, when \_\_\_\_, in 2023

Personal Biography	(I grew up in Bolivia.)
Weekend Report Small Talk	(I watched a movie on Friday night.)
Describe an Event or Story	(The movie was so boring.)

### Future in Context tomorrow, tonight, next \_\_\_\_, in \_\_\_\_, someday

#### Will (modal + base) the instant

* Prediction (no evidence)	(The Royals will win tomorrow night.)
* Possible plans (no decision yet)	(Maybe I'll see what's on Netflix.)
* Decision made at the moment of speaking	
Ordering at a Restaurant	(I'll have the fish and chips special.)
Offer to Help	(I'll get that for you.)
Promise	(I'll be on time tomorrow.)

#### Am/is/are + going to + base (the plan)

* Prediction (no evidence AND we can see evidence)	(The Royals are going to win tomorrow night.)
	(That cup is going to fall!)
* Decision made in the past → plan	
Weekend Plans	(I'm going to help my parents on Saturday.)
Holiday Plans	(We're going to visit New York for Christmas.)
Life Goals	(I'm going to study nursing at Penn Valley.)

### Present Progressive (BE + ing) the appointment

* Future plans for a person.	Always include a future time word.
Appointments	(I'm seeing the dentist on Friday.)
Travel Plans	(We're flying to Florida for vacation.)
Lunch Dates	(I'm meeting Jane for lunch tomorrow.)

### Simple Present (do/does + base) the timetable

* Timetable or schedule for a business. (The library closes at 9pm.)	
Transportation	(My flight leaves at 4pm.)
Work Shifts	(The night shift ends at 2am.)
Store Hours	(Price Chopper opens at 7am.)

## Passive (BE + 3<sup>rd</sup>) the action

\* Emphasize the object. The subject is not important, unknown, or obvious.

\* Passive sentences without the “by” phrase are more common.

(The house was built in 2004.)

(The library is closed today.)

Signs, Notices, & Rules in Public Spaces (Smoking is prohibited.)

Workplace Processes & Customer Service (Applications are processed within 5 days.)

Official Announcements & Public Notices (Highway 9 will be closed this Tuesday.)

## Progressive (BE + ing). A temporary action in progress at a specific time.

### Present Progressive (am/is/are + ing) the temporary

\* An action in progress now (I'm sitting.)

\* In progress for a length of time (I'm taking chemistry this semester.)

now, right now, at the moment

today, these days

this week, this month

Workplace Status Update (I'm waiting for the shipment to arrive.)

Describe Family Photos (My son is playing soccer.)

Temporary Situations (I'm taking the bus this week.)

Immediate Phone/Text Conversation (I'm sitting in traffic.)

### Past Progressive (was/were + ing) the background

\* An action that was in progress at a specific time in the past. while, as

Alibi (At 9:00 last night, I was watching TV.)

### Past Progressive vs Simple Past in Context

Accident Reports or Police Reports (The blue car was driving too fast and ran the light.)

Workplace Accountability (I was helping a customer. I'm sorry I missed the call.)

Add Background Info to Small Talk (The dog was barking, so I took him for a walk.)

### Future Progressive (Will + be + ing)

\* An action will be in progress at a specific time in the future.

We use in questions to politely ask about someone's plans.

(Will you be working late tonight?)

## Perfect – there is a relationship between two tenses

### Present Perfect (have/has + 3<sup>rd</sup>) the bridge

\* A completed past action that is important now or influences now – relationship between the past and the present

\* We don't say when (no specific time, general)

lately, recently, already, yet, so far, ever, never

## Present Perfect with SINCE or FOR

\* Changes the meaning!

\* The past action is not completed. The past action continues into the present.

(Suzan has studied English for two and a half years.)

(Anna has lived in Kansas City for almost six years.)

(Anna has lived in Kansas City since 2015.)

Use SINCE with a specific point in time, when the action started

since 8:00 this morning

since Monday, since yesterday

since October, since last month

since Halloween, since October 31<sup>st</sup>

since 2016

since I moved here (past tense verb that happened at a specific time)



Use FOR with a period of time, duration of time, length of time.

for 5 seconds

for 30 minutes

for 2 hours

for 8 days

for a week

for 3 months

for 11 years



Present Perfect vs Simple Past in Context (the general and the specific)

Conversation Starter w/ details (Have you traveled outside the U.S. before?)

Yes, I went to Ireland last summer.)

Job Interview

(Have you worked in a warehouse before?)

Yes, I drove a forklift at my last job.)

Medical Form/Visit

(Have you ever had surgery?)

Yes, I had an appendectomy in 2010.)

## Present Perfect Progressive (have/has + 3<sup>rd</sup> + ing) temporary, effort, time

An action that has just recently stopped. You can still see evidence of that action.

(The sidewalks are wet. It has been raining.)

(Your face is red. Have you been crying?)

To complain or express frustration (I've been waiting on hold for an hour!)

Present Perfect vs Present Perfect Progressive in Context (the bridge and the temporary effort)

Present perfect with since/for

Present Perfect Progressive with since/for

\* Both: not completed

\* Both: something began in the past and is still in progress now

Work Updates

(I've sent ten emails this morning.) result, quantity

(I've been sending emails all morning.) effort, time

Physical States & Health

(I've lost five pounds since my last visit.) result, quantity

(I've been exercising more lately.) effort, time

Living & Working Situations

(I've lived here for 10 years.) more permanent

(I've been living here for 3 months.) more temporary