

## What is Gramatica Teacher?

Gramatica Teacher has two aims: to empower you to be a strong, knowledgeable, enthusiastic teacher of grammar and writing, and to empower your students to be strong, knowledgeable, enthusiastic writers.

Gramatica Teacher is the lifelong work and passion of Greg Byrne, *M.Ed, B.Ed, M.MEMS, CELTA*, an experienced and passionate presenter, teacher, curriculum writer, university teacher, conference speaker and published novelist. When he is not teaching, he finds great delight in etymology, languages, stories, history, neurolinguistics, learning, memory, alphabets and novels. He speaks English well, can read Old English (the language of *Beowulf*) and dabbles in Italian, Japanese, Spanish, Portuguese and German.

He has taught in Perth primary schools and ESL colleges for many years, tutored in the B.Ed program at Edith Cowan University since 2011, written an ASQA-approved tertiary ESL curriculum for a Perth college, written and had published his debut novel *Nine Planets*, and has also presented Gramatica at conferences in Perth, Brisbane, Melbourne, New Orleans, London and the Philippines.

Gramatica Teacher was borne out of the realisation that there had to be a better way to empower students of all ages, nationalities, ability levels and cultures as strong, knowledgeable writers of English. Furthermore, it combines practical classroom experience and common sense with research into visual, task-based learning memory and retention, assessment, Bloom's Taxonomy and neuroscientific education.

So how is Gramatica Teacher different from traditional methods and coursebooks? For decades, primary teachers have taught grammar and writing as two separate subjects, although there has been a move in recent years to associate grammatical concepts with writing exercises.

Gramatica Teacher, on the other hand, has no coursebooks. Instead, it weaves grammar holistically into every writing task and every subject area, and trains students to consider grammar as a strong, clear tool that makes them better writers. However, it takes it two steps further. Firstly, Gramatica presents students with a set of highly visual, colour-coded grammar tools, and trains them in their use. Secondly, when students are presented with a writing task in any subject area, Gramatica trains them to ask a simple question: "To complete this writing task, which of these grammar tools do I need?"

Lastly, Gramatica Teacher provides you, the teacher, with everything *you* need - the learning cards, lesson guides and assessment tools - to make students into knowledgeable, decisive, and empowered writers.

Welcome!

