
Book Review

Rutherford, William E. *Modern English*. Harcourt, Brace, and World. New York, 1968. 482 pages. Hardbound. U.S. price: \$8.50.

Modern English is a textbook for college-level foreign students who have had previous training in English. As the most ambitious attempt so far to apply the insights of generative-transformational grammar to the practical problems of teaching English to foreign students, it should be a book of considerable interest to TESL teachers.

The twenty units of the book provide ample material for a two semester or three quarter course of study. There are also two preliminary units for students who need a review of the fundamentals of English structure.

Each unit contains three parts. The first part begins with a dialogue introducing the structural patterns to be learned in the unit, continues with utterance discrimination and utterance contour drills that reveal the

sound contrasts basic to understanding, and ends with a short section for memorization. Part two of the unit contains five sections on grammar; each introduces a basic point of grammar and provides a variety of oral drills to fix the concept. Part three has a short reading selection and written exercises to further reinforce the grammar of the unit.

Although teachers and students accustomed to the explanations and drills of traditional grammar or structural linguistics may well be initially frustrated and somewhat disoriented by the novel terminology and techniques of this book, the excellent organization and new insights offered in *Modern English* deserve a wide audience.

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