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## MODERN APPLICATION OF THE TRADITIONAL GRAMMAR TRANSLATION METHOD WHILE SECOND LANGUAGE TEACHING

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The Grammar Translation Method (GTM) is one of the means of second language teaching based mostly on the translation of textual units. The essence of the method is that grammar rules and syntax of the target language are introduced and explained to learners more in a linguistic than communicative way.

The method was created by Prof. Karl Plotz in the XIX century, and hence can be considered one of the oldest in second language acquisition methodology. Basically, the strategy includes learning and comparison. Strict grammar and syntax rules of the target language are comprehended and learned through comparison with the related rules of the native language. To practice the theory, specific sentences and paragraphs are translated from second language into native and back. Taking into account the character of learning activity such a methodology is aimed to teach the inner nature of the target language in the narrow sense but not the language in its overall meaning.

The basic tools included in the Grammar Translation Method are paradigms; consistent translation of sentences and mirror comparison of rules; rote learning which is a technique of memorizing based on repetition; and dividing words into lexemes and morphemes.

Nowadays the essence of the Grammar Translation Method can be viewed as relatively restricted, not widely applicable and not consistent with current trends of teaching second language. Such an opinion can be accepted but with certain clarifications – the method is still widely practiced and applied when understanding texts is the primary goal of foreign language learning and there is little need for language communicative skills development. The method is focused on second language learning in order to read and comprehend texts and benefit from intellectual development as a result of foreign language skills application.

The basic principle of the Grammar Translation Method could sound as the following: «The first language is maintained as the reference system in the

acquisition of the second language” (Stern 1983: 455). Using the patterns of the native language the instructor in details informs the learners about the words sounding, formation, meaning, place and usage in the target language; how to use second language grammar rules while translating; and compares the native and target languages rules practicing vice versa translation.

The advantages of applying the Grammar Translation Method are quite evident. Firstly, learners` understanding of word formation and grammar structures is profitably useful for comprehending the other language. Secondly, understanding the rules through correlation of them with the native language patterns allows learners to feel more comfortable in the atmosphere of a foreign language.

Modern linguistic practitioners primarily support the methodology based on the idea that requires language teaching and learning to be performed within the communicative and academic approaches that encourages the natural ability of a learner to perceive a different language system. Nevertheless, the Grammar Translation Method is still quite applicable due to its helpfulness for the formal learning of the target language, and its traditional essence can be successfully combined with modern communicative skills development methods.

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## **CANADIAN ENGLISH IN THE SCHEME OF ENGLISH VARIETIES**

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Canadian English seems neither here nor there in the grand scheme of English varieties. On the one hand, Canadians prefer the “British” spelling of words like *colour* or *centre*. On the other hand, everyone who has heard an anglophone Canadian speak will notice that the pronunciation is very close to American English. In fact, most people will have a hard time differentiating Canadian English vs. American English speakers. But every once in awhile – most famously when Canadians say *out*, *about* or *eh* – there is no denying that Canadian English has some unique characteristics. So what are they? Let us have a look at Canadian English compared to American and British English.