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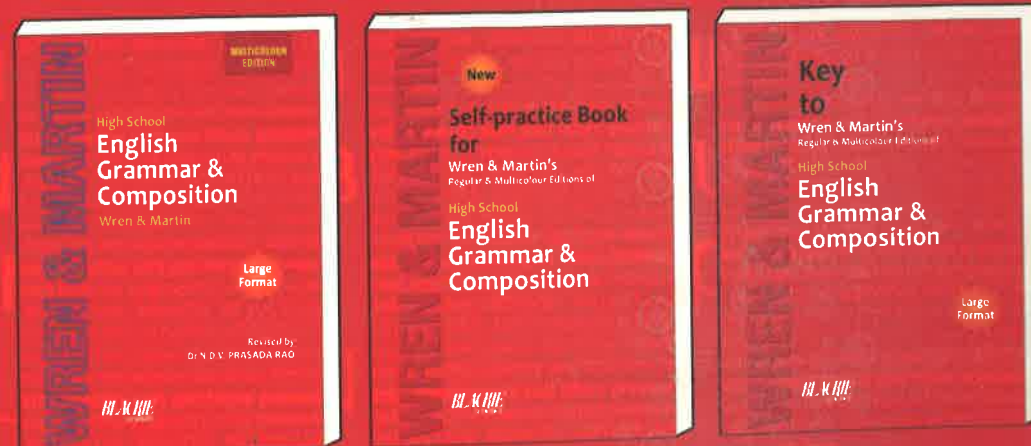
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PREFACE

Wren and Martin's monumental work *High School English Grammar and Composition* is available in two editions. One is a multicolour illustrated edition, and the other is a regular edition without illustrations.

The material in the book has been further updated where called for. It has been felt necessary in particular to revise some material in the chapters dealing with adjectives, active and passive voice, articles and prepositions.

It was in the year 1972 that the shrewd visionary Mr Shyam Lal Gupta obtained the permission of Maneckji Cooper Education Trust for the revision of this book and commissioned me to revise it thoroughly. The revised edition came out in 1973 and was well received. One of the main features of the revised edition was the addition of a great deal of new material (such as the three chapters on structures) based on the new developments in the study of English structure and usage. Subsequently the book was revised every four or five years and most extensively in 1999.

Unlike many traditional grammar books, the book in the present form helps the student to use the language as well as giving detailed information about the language. It provides ample guidance and practice in sentence building, correct usage, comprehension, composition and other allied areas so as to equip the student with the ability to communicate effectively in English.

It is gratifying to learn that this classic work, though primarily intended for use in the Indian subcontinent, is also used in Sri Lanka, Malaysia, Singapore, Mauritius, etc. It is hoped that the book will be found useful in many more countries where English is used as a second or foreign language.

Dr N.D.V. Prasada Rao

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An authentic and useful solution of this book entitled. "A Key to Wren and Martin's High School English Grammar and Composition" is also available.

CHAPTER 1: THE SENTENCE

- When we speak or write we use words. We generally use these words in groups; as,
Little Jack Horner sat in a corner.
A group of words like this, which makes *complete sense*, is called a **Sentence**.

Kinds of Sentences

- Sentences are of four kinds:
 - Those which make *statements* or *assertions*; as,
Humpty Dumpty sat on a wall.
 - Those which ask *questions*; as
Where do you live ?
 - Those which express *commands*, *requests*, or *entreaties*; as,
Be quiet.
Have mercy upon us.
 - Those which express *strong feelings*; as,
How cold the night is!
What a shame!
- A sentence that makes a *statement* or *assertion* is called a **Declarative** or **Assertive** sentence.
A sentence that asks a *question* is called an **Interrogative** sentence.
A sentence that expresses a *command* or an *entreaty* is called an **Imperative** sentence.
A sentence that expresses *strong feeling* is called an **Exclamatory** sentence.

CHAPTER 2: SUBJECT AND PREDICATE

- When we make a sentence:
 - We name some *person* or *thing*; and
 - Say something about that person or thing.
In other words, we must have a *subject* to speak about and we must *say* or *predicate* something about that subject.
Hence every sentence has *two parts*:
 - The part which names the person or thing we are speaking about. This is called the **Subject** of the sentence.