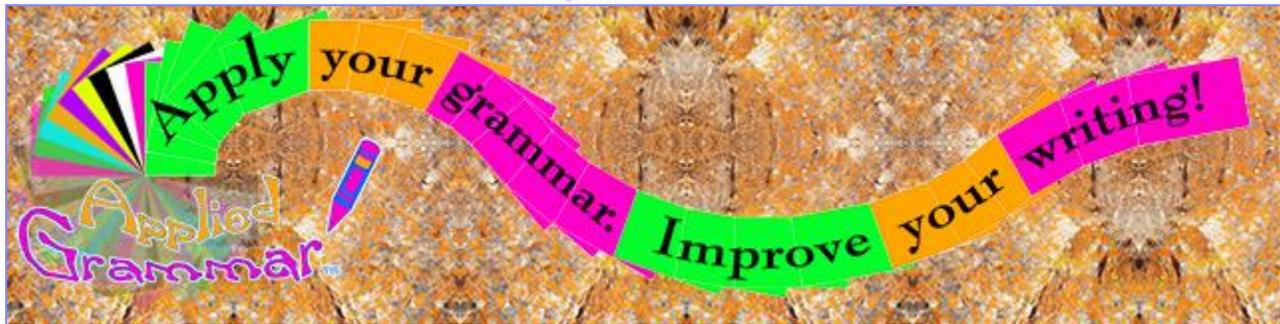




# Applied Grammar™



Dear Friends,

Our family is walking with Bob's mom and dad as dad is walking through the valley of the shadow of death. This is a very precious time, and we are full of the hope of his life and healing in Heaven.

Please pray for our family and especially Mom and Dad as they walk this road.

Also, this summer I plan to begin work on the Applied Grammar for Children within the Autistic spectrum. I would appreciate your prayers for the creativity and thought processes that will go into this endeavor.

Thank you to all who have signed up to receive our newsletters. If there are any specific subjects you would like me to address, please feel free to contact us at [info@applied-grammar.com](mailto:info@applied-grammar.com).

Sincerely,  
Bob and Gail

You can find past copies of the newsletter [here](#).

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## News & Events

### Hear ye, Hear ye!

Enoch in New Jersey and to Atlanta, Georgia.

The High School Level is complete, and we are very excited to find out how well you like it. Please look for us at a convention near you, so you can check it out. If we are not at a convention near you, and you would like to have a copy to look at for a limited amount of time, please check with us. We can figure out a way for you to work with a group to check out our materials.

You might also want to [sign up for e-tutoring](#) so that your student gets the benefit of having someone new edit and correct their work, as well as give them written assignments.

## Featured Articles

### When Should We Begin Teaching Cursive?



This question was posed to me at the last convention, and I thought it would be a good question to address in my newsletter.

There are differing opinions about when to begin teaching cursive. As always is the case, the student should be the guide to your instruction. As you read my thoughts, keep in mind that I am an older teacher, and I have not necessarily accepted all "new" ideas and practices.

1. Children need to have their early developmental confusion about left/right and up/down mostly cleared up before teaching them cursive.
2. Printed letters that are backwards or upside down are still recognizable to the child even though they are in the wrong position, and corrections are easier to make than in the middle of a word written in cursive.
3. If children are in the process of learning the sounds of letters and letter-combinations in order to be able to read, I think having them learn cursive letter shapes at the same time might slow down the reading process by adding too much new information.
4. Learning cursive does not reinforce the letter shapes they must recognize for the reading process.

On the positive side: Some children who have much difficulty with positioning their pencil after each letter will be relieved when they only have to lift the pencil and reposition it after each word. However, this can be helped by using graph paper for printing until they are ready for cursive.

I have often had children focus on bottom-line control first to help them understand that all letters can be formed in relation to the bottom line. It is important to future fluency to remember to teach them top to bottom strokes for all vertical lines. I don't recommend a particular hand writing program, but I do like the word descriptions that the Peterson Handwriting program uses when teaching the cursive strokes. These can be used with most handwriting programs.

We have had a successful convention season thus far. Many people have signed up for our newsletters, and we have just two more conventions to go. I'm wondering if you would take the time to respond to a few questions.

1. If I were to have pay per view sessions that correspond with the Applied Grammar teacher books, would you conceive of yourselves using them? I'm thinking \$3.00 per 15 minute lesson.
2. Would lessons on DVD for the instruction be something you would purchase? I'm thinking the price would be about \$90.00 per Level.

IF there is some way that you would like for me to be of service to you, please let me know.

Thank you,  
Gail