

grammar may, therefore, best be understood through a consideration of the nature of language in general. All language presents a twofold aspect. On its formal side it represents a co-ordination of sounds, or of symbols representing these sounds—its phonic aspect. On its content side it constitutes a record of human thought and feeling—its psychic aspect.

Besides, however, providing for human thought a record in phonic terms, language is also to be viewed as a necessary instrument for thought. That is, no thinking beyond a most rudimentary type can take place except through the instrumentality of language; in other words, language is a necessary instrument through and by which all adequate thinking must take place.

In addition, therefore, to the separate study of the sounds and sound symbols of which language is constituted, and of the thoughts expressed by these sounds, there is a third aspect in which language may be studied. Corresponding to the orderly processes through which the mind combines its ideas into thoughts, language presents laws and principles governing the connection of words in sentences. It is only through the universality of these laws and principles that language furnishes an instrument for conceiving and recording thought. It is with these laws and principles that the science of grammar is concerned. Grammar may, therefore, be defined as an investigation into the general laws and principles which underlie the structure of language, or of the sentence as an instrument of thought.

THE SCOPE OF GRAMMAR

As the science of the sentence, grammar must confine itself to a study of such facts as enter into the problems