

23 November 2000

The grammar of Ripose

This fact sheet describes what grammar is, the pitfalls of its misuse and a set of grammatical constructs used by the Ripose Technique and compilers to quality assure or create a strategic plan.

Firstly, what is grammar? It enables one to assemble atomic objects into useful and re-useable patterns - a method of making things. It uses terms/objects that can be grouped/classified under a set number of patterns/constructs. Note grammar is not a collection of prohibitions.

To date, grammar has been used extremely successfully in a number of areas, including languages; branches of science - mathematics, chemistry and physics; music; dance and sport.

Secondly, what are the pitfalls? Without a clear and concise knowledge of grammar, things can go awry. For example, in language we usually want to say/write more than one word. We cannot say all these words at the same time, so we have to decide upon a certain order. Consider the following sentence 'while in the bathtub, the telephone rang'. It presents the reader with 2 very different images. Get the grammar wrong and the whole sentence can be misinterpreted. Get the sentence wrong and the whole article/paper/document is open to interpretation.

Does information technology have its own grammar? If so, what are its pitfalls? Some experts say that the system development life cycle is the grammar. They parse each cycle into subordinate activities/strategic elements, expanding the grammar. This 'grammar' has often led to information technology projects failing to live up to business operatives' expectations - see <http://www.standishgroup.com/visitor/chaos.htm>.

Thirdly, How does the Ripose grammar work? The Ripose Technique and compilers uses syntax of 3 activities; 3 architectures/frameworks; 4 analysis phases and 33 strategic elements (see next page for more detail).

This grammar is designed to reduce the risks of:

- Creating a strategic plan that cannot be implemented
- Implementing functions that do not support the strategic plan

Ripose Pty Limited

QLD 4878

Australia

Voice (07) 4081 0197

Facsimile

Email info@ripose.com

Web site <http://www.ripose.com>

The following table shows the Ripose grammar:

Activity	Architecture /framework	Analysis phase	Strategic element	
Joint enterprise modelling	Conceptual	Information	Goals (internal)	1 Purpose
				4 Missions
				11 Critical success factors
			Business statements (external)	1 Vision
				n Mission
				n Objectives
				n Strategies
			Measures	Key performance indicators
				Metrics
			Knowledge	Entity types
Associations				
System	Actions/functions/strategies/facets			
	Systems/tactics/subject areas			
Joint application modelling	Logical	Data	Facts/attributes	
			Databases/files/tables	
		Process	Processes/operations	
			Applications/programs	
Rapid application design	Physical	Hardware/ software/ network	Prototypes	

About us

Ripose specialises in providing information management professional services. We produce high quality deliverables from strategic plans to implemented solutions rapidly with the Ripose conceptual and logical compilers.

Still need more information?

Contact us (<http://www.ripose.com>) and we will provide you with guest access to our management presentation and/or white papers covering topics such as:

- Ripose Technique - Patterns
- Ripose Technique - Comparisons
- Ripose Technique - 7-steps
- Ripose Technique - Assignment plan