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# CLASSICAL CONVERSATIONS PANAMA CITY

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July 2010

## Challenge Classes Begin August 12, 2010

Contact Helen Holmes, [hholmes40@aol.com](mailto:hholmes40@aol.com) or Evelyn Barr, [bunchofbars@comcast.net](mailto:bunchofbars@comcast.net) to register.



**Evelyn Barr**  
Challenge A



**Helen Holmes**  
Challenge B

There are still a few openings left for your 7th-9th graders in Challenge A and B. If you are looking for a complete curriculum led by a trained, Christian tutor who will meet with your child once a week to engage and lead your child in an exciting and academic class of peers, then look no further! Evelyn Barr, who will be directing Challenge A, has been homeschooling for twelve years and has been teaching classically with Classical Conversations for six years. Helen Holmes, who will be directing Challenge B, has been homeschooling for fifteen years and has been teaching classically with Classical Conversations for six years.

If you would like to join Foundations or Essentials for the 2010-2011 school year, contact Shonda Bush at [ccpcmom@gmail.com](mailto:ccpcmom@gmail.com) to reserve your seat! The classes are being made now and there are only a couple of seats left. If you would like more information, please visit the Classical Conversations website at [www.classicalconversations.com](http://www.classicalconversations.com) or our local website at [www.ccpcfl.com](http://www.ccpcfl.com) or contact Shonda.

## Why English Grammar?

excerpts from *The War Against Grammar*

By Shonda Bush

Classical Conversations Panama City  
Foundations and Essentials Director



I recently enjoyed reading the book "The War Against Grammar" by David Mulroy. It is a short book, only 118 pages, but it is full of great information on the history of English grammar and how it is currently being treated in teaching circles. I was struck with the necessity of teaching formal English grammar to 4th-6th grade students. Mulroy is a Stanford Ph.D. Professor who has taught Classics at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee since 1973. He gives many reasons on the importance of understanding formal grammar and notes the decline of understanding of sentence structures by college students. In his book, he describes how he asked members of one of his classes to produce a brief paraphrases of the first sentence of the Declaration of Independence. I challenge you to do the same now!

*When in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and Nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.*

Mulroy was "looking for a restatement of the proposition expressed in the main clause, that respect for public opinion makes it necessary for parties who are abandoning an established union

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## MEET THE TUTORS- FOUNDATIONS

Using the basic principles of a one room school house, these Foundations tutors will guide your children, K4-6th grade, in a morning of enjoyable educational activities. From history and science to art and music, the morning is packed full of hands on learning!



Emily Delmar



Gina Granville



Anita Griffin



Kim Nicolalde



Cami Reynolds



Linda Tinch

Over the past six years, the Lord has been gracious to our community in so many ways. We started off with two Foundations classes of eight students each and now we have grown to seven Foundations classes, two Essentials classes, and two Challenge classes! We have a wonderful group of ladies that have a heart for homeschooling their children and a strong desire to equip parents to educate their own children.



Christy Ward

to explain why they are doing so." He goes on to state that of the sixty-one students who tried to paraphrase the sentence, none recognized its source and some thought it had to do with the ending of a romance. Only twenty five comprehended the gist of the sentence. Some students believed that it was exhorting people to "preserve the earth". By using grammatical analysis, one can find the subject of the main clause is *respect to the opinions of mankind* and the main verb is *requires*. As the primary educator of my children, I feel compelled to give them the tools needed to understand not just current easy reading material, but also important documents of our history and the Bible.

I encourage you to pick up the book and give it an earnest read. I hope that you will be inspired to teach your grammar stage students formal grammar.

## Essentials

I am excited to announce that our campus will be offering two Essentials classes this year. If you have the desire to give your students a wonderful Language Arts education, then Essentials is the class for you. Our tutors, Shari Walsh and Tina Lamonica, have been trained thoroughly in teaching English Grammar using Leigh Bortin's book, *Essential of the English Language* and writing using Andrew Pudewa's, *Institute for Excellence in Writing (IEW)* methods. Whether you were given an excellent English education in school or never received the instructions you needed as a student, you and your children will learn together in this fun learning environment. English grammar, writing and math facts practice have never been so exciting!



Tina Lamonica



Shari Walsh