**Abbreviation**: A shortened form of a word. **Abbreviations** begin with a **capital** letter and end with a period. Example: “Dr.” is an **abbreviation** for “Doctor.”

**Action verb**: A **verb** that describes an action. The action can be a physical action or a mind action. Example: He ran to the store. She wants a chocolate birthday cake. **Run, walk, think, feel, want** are examples of **action verbs**.

**Adjective**: A word that describes a **noun** or a **pronoun**. “Furry” and “white” are **adjectives** that tell more about the **noun** “kitten.”

**Adverb**: A word that describes a **verb** (action word). **Adverbs** tell “how” or “when” the action took place. **Adverbs** also describe “how often” or “where” the action is done. Many **adverbs** end in “ly.” “Sam ran quickly.” “Ran” is the **verb**. “Quickly” is the **adverb** that tells “how” Sam ran. “Sam arrived last.” “Arrived” is the **verb**. “Last” tells “when” Sam arrived.

**Antonym**: A word that means the opposite of another word. Example: “large” is an antonym of the word “small”.

**Apostrophe**: A punctuation mark (’) used to replace a letter in a **contraction** or to show the possessive forms of **nouns** and **pronouns**. Examples: “Can’t” is the contraction of the words “can not”. “Sue’s” cat, or “somebody’s” cat describes to whom the cat belongs.

**Appositive**: A word or group of words that directly follow another word to explain it. Example: Mrs. Smith, my grandmother, is 65 years old. The words “my grandmother” are the **appositive** and more fully explain who Mrs. Smith is.

**Article**: A type of **adjective** used to identify a **noun** in a definite way (“The teacher in classroom 3C likes to teach art.”) or in a general, or indefinite way (“A teacher prepares lessons for class.”). “A”, “an”, and “the” are **articles**.


**Capitalize**: Means to begin a word with a **capital** letter. **Capitalize** the first letter in **proper nouns** (person, place, thing), titles of people, initials, **abbreviations**, the first word, last word, and other important words in the title of books, movies, plays, paintings, ships, and other works, the greeting and closing in letter parts, the first word of each line of an outline, the first word in every line of a poem, the first word of every direct quotation, the names of months, days and holidays, proper adjectives, geographic names, religions, nationalities, languages, names of clubs, organizations, and business firms.

**Comma**: A **punctuation mark** (,) that is used to separate ideas or sentence parts that go together. **Commas** are used to help make the meaning of a **sentence** clear. When reading aloud, the **comma** tells the reader to briefly pause. **Commas** are used to separate **nouns**, **verbs**, and **adjectives** in a series, to set off **interrupters** (mild interjections or parenthetical...
expressions), to set off the name of the person directly spoken to, to set off conversation words, before the word “and”, “or”, and “but” when joining two shorts sentences into one longer sentence, after introductory phrases, and to set off appositives.

**Common noun**: A word that names a person, place, or thing. Common nouns do not name a specific person, place, or thing. Example: girl is a common noun and does not tell us which girl.

**Comparative adjective**: Adjectives that compare two things. The ending “er” can be added to many adjectives to make comparative adjectives. Example: I have an “old” coat. Her coat is “older” than mine. “Older” is a comparative adjective.

**Comparative adverb**: Adverbs that compare two things. Most adverbs that end in “ly” form the comparative with the word “more.” Example: Adverb: quickly Comparative adverb: more quickly

**Complete sentence**: A sentence that has both a subject part and a predicate part and makes sense.

**Compound noun**: Nouns made by joining two or more nouns together to form a compound word.

**Compound word**: A word that has been made up of two or more words which keep their separate form. Example: “Steamship” is a compound word made up of the two words “steam” and “ship.”

**Conjunction**: A word that is used to connect words or groups of words together. The words “and”, “or”, and “but” are conjunctions.

**Contraction**: A shortened word made by putting two words together. Use an apostrophe to show that letters have been left out. Example: The contraction of the words can and not is “can’t.”

**Conversation word**: An action word (verb) that tells how someone has said something. Examples: said, stated, shouted, yelled, and whispered.

**Declarative sentence**: A sentence that makes a statement or tells something. A declarative sentence has a period at the end. It is the most common type of sentence.

**Demonstrative pronoun**: A pronoun when it stands alone in a sentence and replaces a noun. These words can be used as demonstrative pronouns: this, that, these, those Example: These are my shoes.

**Detail sentence**: Sentences that tell more about the main idea in a paragraph.
**Direct quote**: The exact words a person says. **Quotation marks** (" ") are used before and after a person's exact words. Example: *John said, “I am going to the store.”*

**Exclamation mark**: A punctuation mark (!) used at the end of an **exclamatory sentence** or an **interjection**.

**Exclamatory sentence**: A sentence that shows strong feeling. An **exclamation mark** is used at the end of an **exclamatory sentence**.

**Future tense verb**: An action word (verb) that tells about something that will happen in the future. Example: We “**shall visit**” the Statue of Liberty next year.

**Helping verbs**: A verb that helps the main verb name an action a helping verb states that “something is” and is a form of a “be” verb called a “**state of being**” verb. It helps the action form the **predicate part**. The most common helping verbs are: am, is, are, was, were, have, has, had, do, does, did, being, been, can, could, may, might, must, shall, should, will, and would. Example: He might have seen my lost dog. The helping verbs “might” and “have” help the verb “seen” to form the **predicate part** of the sentence.

**Homographs**: Words that have the same spelling as another word, but a different origin and meaning. Homographs may have the same or different pronunciation. When pronunciation is the same, the words are also homonyms.

Examples:  
1. Our class was **present** for the award ceremony.  
The word **present** in this sentence is an **adjective**.

2. We watched our teacher **present** the awards.  
The word **present** in this sentence is a **verb**.

The **adjective present** has a different **pronunciation** than the **verb present**. Because the **adjective present** has different pronunciations, it is neither a **homophone** nor a **homonym**.

**Homonyms**: Words that have the same **pronunciation** and the same spelling as another word, but a different origin and meaning. All **homonyms** are also **homographs** and **homophones**. Example: The word **mail** can mean “letters” or “armor”. It is pronounced the same way for both meanings. It is also spelled the same for both meanings of the word.

**Homophones**: Words that sound alike or have the same **pronunciation** as another word but have different meanings and word origins. Spelling could be the same (then the words are also homonyms and homographs) or different. The words **they’re, there, and their** are **homophones**. They sound alike but have different meanings and word origins. As they are spelled differently, they are neither **homographs** nor **homonyms**.
Imperative sentence: A sentence that tells or commands someone to do something. It has a period at the end of it. An example of an imperative sentence is: "Pick up your toys." As in this sentence, the subject "You" is often not stated.

Indent: To begin the first word in a sentence farther from the left margin than any of the other lines in the paragraph. It is used to show that a new paragraph is about to begin.

Indirect quotations: A reference to spoken words that do not give the exact words of a speaker and are not placed within quotation marks. An example of an indirect quotation: My brother said that he wanted to go.

Initial: The first letter in each part of a name. Example: John Paul Jones’s initials are J. P. J. An initial is always capitalized and followed by a period.

Interjection: A word or group of words that show a strong feeling. Interjections are not complete sentences. An exclamation mark is used at the end of an interjection. Examples: “Help!” and “Stop that!”

Interrogative sentence: A sentence that asks a question. It has a question mark at the end of it. Example: “Where are you going?”

Intransitive verb: An action verb that does not have an object. Example: The rooster crowed. “Crowed” is an action verb, but it is not followed by a direct object.

Introductory phrase: A group of words that do not form a complete sentence. They are used to introduce a sentence and are set off from the rest of the sentence with a comma. Example: Before I go to bed, I brush my teeth. The words “Before I go to bed” is an introductory phrase.

Linking verb: A verb that connects the subject part of a sentence with a noun or an adjective in the predicate part. It tells what the subject is or is like. The most common linking verb is a form of the verb “be.” The most common of the linking verbs are: is, are, was, were, am, seem, be, been, become. Example: He is my father. The linking verb “is” links the subject “He” to the object “father”. He and father are the same person.

Main idea: Words that tell the most important idea in a paragraph. The rest of the sentences in a paragraph tell more about the main idea.

Mild interjections: Also called parenthetical expressions or interrupters. They are the words: “yes”, “no”, “well”, “for example”, “by the way”, “however”, and “of course”. A comma is used to set these words off from the rest of the sentence. Example: Yes, I will go to the store with you.

Noun: A word that names a person, place, thing, idea, or a feeling. Examples: dentist, town, cheese, love, music.
Noun of address: The person directly spoken to in a sentence is called the noun of address. Nouns of address are separated from the rest of the sentence with a comma. Example: Mikel, where is your coat? “Mikel” is the noun of address.

Object pronoun: A pronoun used as an object of the verb. It answers the question whom? or what? Example: Look at me. “Me” is the object of the verb “look” and answers the question “whom? “Me” is the object pronoun.

Ordering adjectives: Adjectives that are used to order things. Words like one, two, and three tell how many and are called ordering adjectives.

Paragraph: A group of sentences that tell about the same idea or topic. Paragraphs usually begin on a new line and are indented.

Past tense verb: An action word (verb) that tells about something that has already happened. Many past tense verbs end in “ed.” Example: I cleaned my room yesterday.

Period: A punctuation mark (.) used at the end of a declarative sentence or an imperative sentence. It is also used at the end of an abbreviated title of people, abbreviations, and initials.

Plural noun: A noun that names more than one person, place, or thing. Examples: boys, schools, and apples.

Plural possessive noun: A plural noun that shows ownership. To form a plural possessive noun, add an apostrophe (’) after the ‘s’ on a plural noun. Do not add another ‘s’ after the apostrophe. Example: The ducks’ bills were all muddy.

Possessive noun: A noun that names who or what has something. To form a possessive noun, add an apostrophe and “s” at the end of a noun. Example: The yellow coat is that girl’s coat.

Possessive pronouns: A word that takes the place of a noun and shows who or what has or owns something. Examples: my, her, his, their, our, its, mine, your, yours.

Predicate: The word or words telling what is said about the subject. Example: The dog barks. “Barks” is the predicate or verb part that tells what the subject “the dog” is doing.

Predicate Adjective: An adjective that follows a linking verb. Example: The food was tasty. Tasty is a predicate adjective because “is” is a linking verb and “tasty” is an adjective describing the food.

Prefix: A letter or letters added at the beginning of another word to change its meaning. The letters “un” and “re” are common prefixes. The prefix “un” can mean “the opposite of.” The prefix “re” can mean “again.” Examples: When “un” is added to the word “hook”, to form
“unhook” it changes the meaning to be “the opposite of hooking”. When the prefix “re” is added to “fill” to form “refill” it changes the meaning to “fill again”.

Preposition: The word preposition has two parts: “pre” meaning “before” and “position”. A preposition is a word that stands before its object and shows the relationship between that object and another word in the sentence. A preposition is a word that relates its object (a noun or pronoun) to another word in the sentence. These are a few of the commonly used prepositions: about, from, in, of, at, to, before over, with. Example: I went to the store. “I” is the subject, “went” is the verb, “to” is the preposition, “store” is the object of the preposition.

Prepositional phrase: The group of words that includes a preposition and its object. Words that modify the object are also part of the phrase. Example: Mother found my shoes in the living room. The prepositional phrase is “in the living room.”

Present tense verb: An action word (verb) that tells about something that is happening now. Example: I walk to school.

Present perfect tense verb: A verb that names an action that happened at an indefinite time in the past. It can also name an action that happened in the past and is still happening in the present. Using “has or have” as a helping verb with the past participle forms the present perfect tense verb. Example: The dog has returned every day at this time for months. The sentence tells about something that has happened in the past and is still happening in the present.

Pronoun: A word that takes the place of one or more nouns. The “girl” bought eggs. “She” bought eggs. “She” takes the place of the noun “girl”.

Proper noun: A noun that names a specific person, place, or thing. Mary tells which girl. Lincoln School tells which place. October tells which thing (month). Proper nouns begin with capital letters.

Punctuation: The use of marks (punctuation marks) to organize and help the expression and meaning of words, often in sentences. The comma, period, exclamation mark and question mark are examples of punctuation marks.

Question mark: A punctuation mark (?) used at the end of an asking sentence called an interrogative sentence.

Quotation marks: A punctuation mark (" ") used in front of the first word in a direct quote and after the last word in a direct quote. A set of quotation marks look like this: “ ” . Example: “This is my teacher,” said Sandy. Quotation marks are also used to mark titles. Put quotation marks around the titles of stories, poems, television programs, reports, articles, and chapter titles of a book. Example: “How the Camel Got His Hump” (name of a story).
Run-on sentence: Two or more sentences joined together. Avoid run-on sentences. Example: Jeremy was waiting at the bus stop he is waiting for his friend, Max.

Sentence: A group of words that tells or asks a complete thought or idea and makes sense. It has two parts: the noun phrase part called the subject and the verb phrase part called the predicate. The subject tells who or what the sentence is about. The predicate tells what action someone or something does or did. Sometimes the predicate part describes what the subject is or is like.

Singular noun: A noun that names just one person, place, or thing. Examples: boy, school, and dog.

Singular possessive noun: A noun that shows who or what has or owns something. Example: My sister's shoes are black.

Stringy sentence: A sentence that strings together several different sentences with the word “and”. Avoid stringy sentences. Example: We went to the movie and we ordered popcorn and we had fun.

State of being verbs: Verbs that tell that something is are called a form of the “be” verbs or “state of being” verbs. These verbs are “be” verbs or “state of being verbs”: is, are, am, was, were, will be, has been, have been, had been, seem, appear, look. They can be used as linking verbs or helping verbs.

Subject: The person, place, thing, quality, or idea that the sentence is about. It is the noun part in a sentence. Example: “The girl has red hair.” “The girl” is the subject.

Subject pronouns: Pronouns that can be used in the subject part of a sentence. Subject pronouns take the place of the noun in the subject. The boy has a horse. He likes to ride the horse. The pronoun “He” takes the place of the noun “boy.”

Suffix: A letter or letters added to the end of a word to change its meaning. The letters “er” and “or” are common suffixes and usually mean “a person who”. Examples: A climber is a person who climbs. An inventor is a person who invents.

Superlative adjective: A type of adjective that compares more than two things where one of the things is the most of something. The ending “est” is added to an adjective to make a superlative adjective. Many times the words “of all” are used in a sentence with a superlative adjective. Example: I have an old coat. But she has the oldest coat of all. “Oldest” is a superlative adjective.

Superlative adverb: An adverb that compares more than two things. Most adverbs that end in “ly” form the superlative with the word “most.” Example: Adverb: quickly Superlative adverb: most quickly
**Synonym**: A word that means the same or nearly the same as another word. A *synonym* for "big" is "large".

**Title**: The name of a book, a poem, picture, song, play, or written work. It can also mean a word that names a person’s rank, occupation (job or work) or condition in life. Examples: Doctor, Princess, Mr., President, Gone With the Wind, and “Jingle Bells” are all *titles*.

**Transitive Verb**: An *action verb* that has an *object*, called a *direct object*. The *direct object* answers the question *what?* or *whom?* Example: The dog ate the bone. The *action verb* is “ate”. The dog ate what? bone (bone is the *direct object*).

**Underline**: Underline by drawing a line under the name of books, magazines, or movies. Example: Happy Feet  (Name of a Movie)

**Verb**: An action word that tells what is or what is done. *Verbs* tell about the *subject* or *noun* part of the sentence and may tell what the *subject* is or is like. Examples: Walk, run, and think are *action verbs*. Is, are, and was can be *linking verbs*. Has, have, and had are called *helping verbs*. 