

Grammar skills to be taught in 6th, 7th, and 8th grades

- Combining sentences: Compound Subjects and Predicates
 - Use conjunctions /connecting words: “And”, “or”, “but” to combine parts of sentences. 6

- Combining sentences: Compound Sentences
 - Use conjunctions connecting words: “And”, “or”, “but”, “because”, “when”, “although”, and “since” to combine sentences. 7/8

- Combining sentences: Complex Sentences
 - Use subordinating conjunctions: i.e., “because”, “when”, “although”, and “since” to combine sentences. 8
 - Use relative pronouns: i.e., “who”, “whose”, “that”, “which”, “whom” to combine sentences. 8

- Prepositions
 - Identify and use prepositions, objects of prepositions, and prepositional phrases. 7

- Object Pronouns in Prepositional Phrases
 - Use object pronouns as the object of a preposition. 7

- Using Prepositions in Writing
 - Use prepositional phrases in the beginning of a sentence to add variety to writing. Place prepositional phrases in the appropriate place in writing. 7/8
 - Example:
 - Wrong: She told about the high dive at breakfast.
 - Correct: At breakfast, she told about the high dive.

- Capitalization
 - All sentences begin with a capital letter. 6/7
 - Grade 7: Capitalize the following appropriately:
 - Names and Initials
 - Titles (Dr., Mrs., etc..)
 - Abbreviations
 - President

- Family Relationships
 - Pronoun “I”
 - Nationality, Languages, Races
 - Line of Traditional Poetry
 - Quotations
 - Parts of a Letter
 - Literary, Musical, and Artwork Titles
 - Geographical Names
 - Bodies of the Universe
 - Regions and Sections of a Country / World
 - Building, Bridges, and Landmarks
 - Planes, Trains, and other Vehicles
 - Organizations and other Institutions
 - Historical Events, Periods, and Documents
 - Time Abbreviations and Calendar Events
 - Special Events, Awards, and Brand names
- Singular and Plural Nouns
 - All plural forms-Add -s, -es, -ies and irregular nouns-7R
 - Singular Possessive Nouns
 - Start with singular form, add apostrophe “s” 7
 - Plural Possessive Nouns
 - Start with the plural, if the plural ends in “s” just add Apostrophe
 - For plurals that don’t end with “s”, add apostrophe “s” 7
 - Action Verbs
 - A verb may show action. 6R/7R/8R
 - Linking Verbs
 - Linking Verbs: am, is, are, was, were, be, being, been, look, feel, taste, smell, sound, become, appear, remain, stay, seem, and grow. Example: The race will be quick. 6/7R/8R

- Helping Verbs
 - Use and identify helping verbs. 7
 - Example: The man has been traveling a lot.
- Present Tense Verbs
 - A verb that tells about now or in the present. 7
- Past Tense Verbs
 - Past Tense Verbs and Irregular spelling patterns 7
- Future Tense Verbs
 - Distinction between shall and will. 7
- Regular and Irregular Verbs
 - Regular verbs add -ed to form the past and past participle. 7
 - Irregular verbs change their spelling to form the past and past participle and must be memorized. 7
- Past participles terminology
 - Understand the term principle parts: present, past, and past participle 7
- Present Perfect tense
 - Present Perfect tense includes have or has with the past participle.7
 - Examples: They have come to my house. He has run the race.
- Past Perfect
 - Past Perfect tense includes “had” with the past participle.7
 - Examples: He had just finished his homework when the telephone rang.
- Future Perfect
 - Future Perfect tense includes shall have or will have with the past participle. 7

- Verbs:
 - Use and identify indicative, imperative, interrogative, conditional, and subjunctive verbs. 8
 - Example: Indicative: I am going to the mall.
 - Example: Subjunctive: If I were you, I would run.
 - Example: Interrogative: Will you go with me?
 - Example: Conditional: I wish he would be kinder to me.
 - Example: Imperative: Close the door.

- Active and Passive Voice
 - Active Voice is when the subject performs the action. 8
 - Passive Voice expresses the action performed upon the subject. 8

- Adjectives
 - An adjective describes a noun or pronoun. (It tells which one, how many, what kind, and how much) 7

- Adverbs
 - An adverb modifies a verb. (How?, When?, Where?, To what extent?, How much?, How often?) 7

- Comparing with Adverbs
 - Use comparing adverbs with -er, -est, or more / most and irregular (real, really, good, well) 7

- Adjective or Adverb
 - Use irregular adverbs (real, really, good, well, bad, badly) 7

- Negatives
 - Avoid double negatives. 7

- Subject-Verb Agreement
 - Agreement with singular subject, plural subject, I and you. 7

- Subject Pronouns
 - Identify and use subject pronouns: I, you (singular), he, she, it, we, you (plural), they. 6
 - Example: My friend and I went to dinner.

- Object Pronouns
 - Identify and use object pronouns 6
 - Singular: me, you, him, her, it and
 - Plural: Us, you them
 - Example: Please call me tonight. Hand that pencil to me. Hand me that pencil.

- Possessive Pronouns
 - Identify and use possessive pronouns 6
 - Example: My book was stolen.

- Intensive Pronouns
 - Identify and use intensive pronouns 6
 - Example: The players, themselves, designed their uniforms.

- Indefinite Pronouns
 - Identify and use indefinite pronouns 6
 - Example: Most of the players lost their uniforms.

- Pronoun and Antecedent Agreement
 - Identify pronoun and antecedent agreement. 6
 - Example: Amy bought her new purse.

- Contractions and Pronouns
 - Avoid using contractions as pronouns: its, it's; their, they're; your, you're) 6

- Commas
 - Commas are used for the following purposes:
 - Introductory words: Yes, I am going to the game. 6/7
 - Greeting/Salutation and Closing: Dear Bob, / Sincerely, 6/7
 - Interjection: Oh, I guess I will go. 6/7
 - Nouns in Direct Address: Michelle, are you coming with us? 6/7

- Appositive: My mother, Barb, is cooking dinner for us. 6/7
 - Interrupters: Joe, however, did not come to the party last night. 6/7
 - To avoid confusion: Before hieroglyphics, records were not kept on paper. 6/7
 - To separate adjectives of equal rank before a noun to modify: Both father and son made a quick, daring escape. 6/7
 - Commas are used to separate a list. 6/7
 - CORRECT: Eggs, bacon, and toast
 - INCORRECT: Eggs, bacon and toast
 - Identify and use commas correctly for nonrestrictive and parenthetical elements 6I/7
 - Example: The bridge, which was old, needed new steel beams.
 - Identify and use commas to separate coordinate adjectives 7
 - Example: It was a fascinating, enjoyable movie.
 - Identify and use commas to indicate a pause 8
 - Example: Into the house, crept the stalker.
- Direct Quotations
 - Use quotation marks and appropriate punctuation to identify dialogue. 6/7/8
 - Example: Captain Smith said, "Abandon the ship."
 - Indirect Quotation
 - Do not use quotation marks when using an indirect quote. 6/7/8
 - Example: Finally, Captain Smith told the radio operators that they should abandon their ship.
 - Divided Quotation
 - Use quotations around both parts of a divided quote. 6/7/8
 - Examples:
 - "The ship," the owner said, "is unsinkable."
 - "The ship is unsinkable," said the owner. "It has extra protection because of its double bottom hull."
 - Parenthesis
 - Identify and use parenthesis for nonrestrictive and parenthetical elements 6

- Example: She found safety in the home of the neighbors (they were peaceful Quakers) who bought out the remainder of her time as a slave.
- Dashes
 - Identify and use dashes for nonrestrictive and parenthetical elements 6
 - Example: She traveled all over the country—even to the White House—speaking about abolishing slavery.
 - Identify and use dashes to indicate a pause 8
 - Example: She traveled all over the country –even to the White House—speaking about abolishing slavery.
- Ellipsis
 - Identify and use ellipsis to indicate an omission. 8
 - Example: My friend ... lost her homework.
- Phrases and Clauses
 - Identify phrases and clauses and use them correctly in writing. 8
- Dangling Modifier
 - Identify and use correctly. 8
 - Example: Running for the bus, my books fell in the mud.
- Verbals
 - Gerund—verb with “ing” used as a noun 8
 - Participles—verb with “ing” “ed” or irregulars used as an adjectives 8
 - Infinitives—“to” + verb used as nouns, adjectives, and adverbs 8
- Citations
 - Use punctuation in MLA citation accurately in works cited. 8

