



Grammar Essentials

Sentence Structure

Subject-Verb Agreement:	The verb must agree with its subject in number. <i>Example:</i> He <i>walks</i> (singular), They <i>walk</i> (plural)
Simple Sentence:	Contains one independent clause (IC). <i>Example:</i> I love pizza.
Compound Sentence:	Two independent clauses joined by a coordinating conjunction (FANBOYS). <i>Example:</i> I studied, and I passed.
Complex Sentence:	An independent clause (IC) + a dependent clause (DC). <i>Example:</i> I left because it was late.
Run-on Sentence:	Two independent clauses joined incorrectly. <i>Example:</i> I ate lunch I went out. (Incorrect)
Comma Splice:	Two independent clauses joined only by a comma. <i>Example:</i> I was tired, I stayed up. (Incorrect)

Punctuation Rules

Commas:	Use after dependent clauses, items in a list, and introductory phrases. <i>Example:</i> If hungry, eat.
Semi-colons:	Join related independent clauses. <i>Example:</i> I was late; I missed the bus.
Apostrophes:	Indicate contractions (can't = cannot) and possession (Afrin's pen).
Dashes:	Add emphasis or extra information. <i>Example:</i> He ran—fast!
Quotation Marks:	Used for direct speech. <i>Example:</i> She said, "I'm coming."

Parts of Speech

Subject:	The doer of the action. <i>Example:</i> She runs fast.
Verb:	An action or state word. <i>Example:</i> She runs.
Predicate:	The verb and all info about the subject. <i>Example:</i> The dog barked loudly.
Preposition:	Shows time/place. <i>Example:</i> In class, under bed.
Auxiliary Verbs:	Helping verbs. <i>Example:</i> She is running.

Short Story Elements

Narrative Techniques

Show, Don't Tell:	Describe through action/feeling, not direct statement. <i>Example:</i> Instead of "He was angry," write "His fists clenched, and his face turned red."
In Medias Res:	Begin in the middle of the story. <i>Example:</i> Start with a character running, rather than describing their background.
Withholding Information:	Keep key info secret for suspense. <i>Example:</i> Delay revealing a character's true identity.
Slow Motion:	Time stretched in writing. <i>Example:</i> Describing each movement in a fight scene in detail.

Story Components

Protagonist:	The main character.
Antagonist:	The character/force against the protagonist.
Irony:	Opposite of what is expected.
Red Herring:	False clue to mislead the reader.

Dialogue Tips

Dialogue Punctuation:	Use correct punctuation with quotes. <i>Example:</i> "Hello," she said, "how are you?"
Dialogue Tag + Participle:	Tag with "-ing" verb. <i>Example:</i> Laughing, he said.
Interrupted Dialogue:	"I was—" he said, "about to speak."

Poetry & Essay Writing

Poetry Terms

Rhyme Scheme:	The pattern of end rhymes (e.g., ABAB).
Rhythm:	The beat or pace of a poem.
Metaphor:	Direct comparison (“Time is money”).
Anaphora:	Repeating words at sentence starts.
Rhyming Couplet:	Two rhyming lines in a row.

Shakespeare - Macbeth

Key Scenes

Act 1, Scene 1: Supernatural atmosphere, evil tone: “Fair is foul, and foul is fair.”
Act 1, Scene 2: Macbeth described as brave, noble, and heroic.
Act 1, Scene 3: The witches’ prophecy: Macbeth will be Thane of Cawdor and King.
Act 1, Scene 4: Ambition rises in Macbeth: “Stars, hide your fires...”
Act 1, Scene 7: Macbeth worries about killing Duncan, Lady Macbeth manipulates him.
Post Murder – Act 2: Macbeth feels guilt and shock. Lady Macbeth takes control.
Banquo’s Murder – Act 3: Macbeth fears Banquo’s children, becomes paranoid: “Fruitless crown.”

Essay Structure

Opinion Essay: Introduction Hook + opinion/thesis.
Opinion Essay: Body Reason + explanation + example.
Opinion Essay: Conclusion Restate thesis + summary of points.
Literary Essay: Body Paragraph Focus on technique + quote + analysis.

Essay Tips

Specific Evidence:	Use real facts, quotes, or proof.
Different Reasons:	Each paragraph has a unique reason.
Clichéd Metaphors:	Avoid overused comparisons.

Themes & Traits

Ambition:	Can be good or evil.
Macbeth:	Brave, ambitious, manipulated, becomes ruthless.
Lady Macbeth:	Controlling, manipulative, angry when plan fails.
Guilt & Regret:	Macbeth suffers deeply.
Fate vs. Free Will:	Prophecies shape their choices.

Key Quotes

WITCHES: “Fair is foul...” – Paradox: nothing is as it seems.
CAPTAIN: “Brave Macbeth...” – Bloody execution shows savagery.
MACBETH: “Stars, hide your fires...” – Evil thoughts hidden.
MACBETH: “O! full of scorpions...” – Mental suffering and regret.
MACBETH: “Here lay Duncan...” – Metaphor: Golden blood shows regret.