Grammar is critical to the mastery of language. Grammar is the language of language. Learn the special rules below, which are in italics and study the examples.

There are 8 MAJOR “PARTS OF SPEECH”

1. NOUNS
A Noun is a Naming Word – Nouns name persons, places, things and qualities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Persons</th>
<th>Mary</th>
<th>girl</th>
<th>mother</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Places</td>
<td>Bunbury</td>
<td>Melbourne</td>
<td>Australia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Things</td>
<td>car</td>
<td>tree</td>
<td>magazine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ideas, qualities</td>
<td>love</td>
<td>tenderness</td>
<td>eternity</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2. VERBS -
The verb is the Key to the Sentence – Verbs may show action, state-of-being or possession.

(a) - ACTION Verbs - show activity
- eat, read, breathe, sneeze

(b) – STATE OF BEING VERBS – Show the state the subject is being in
- am, is, are, was, were
- be, been, being

(c) - POSSESSIVE VERBS
- Have, has, had

SIMPLE VERBS
- eat, read, breathe, sneeze

COMPOUND VERBS
- Compound verbs are a combination of a State-of-Being (Helper) + Main Verb
- am + eating
- have + read
- were + running

3. ADJECTIVES -
Adjectives describe nouns.
- e.g. a cat is the noun - **big** cat; **furry** cat; **two** cats; **fat** cat. (They put colour, description and number into your language)

Adjectives tell:
- Which one? The, that, those
- How many? Two, some, few
- What kind? Big, furry, fat, blue.
- Whose? Mum's, her.

4. ARTICLES
Articles point to nouns. They are part of the adjective family.
- They are: “the”, “a”, “an”.
- DEFINITE ARTICLE
  - Refers to a definite thing e.g. the cat
- INDEFINITE ARTICLE
  - Refers to any or an indefinite thing, not a specific thing e.g. a cat, an apple
5. PRONOUNS
Pronouns take the place of a noun.
I went to Joe's house to meet Joe, I knocked on the door and Joe opened Joe's door.
Instead, pronouns allow us to say it in a better way e.g.
I went to Jo's house to meet him, I knocked on the door and he opened it.
There are 3 persons associated with pronouns
1st person: person speaking
2nd person: person spoken to
3rd person: person spoken about

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Person</th>
<th>Singular</th>
<th>Plural</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>I, me</td>
<td>we, us</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>you</td>
<td>you</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>he, she, him, her, it</td>
<td>they, them</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6. ADVERBS
Adverbs modify verbs. They tell - HOW, WHEN and WHERE about verbs.

ran HOW? quickly, slowly, lazily,
ran WHEN? yesterday, today, again
ran WHERE? there

Hints Adverbs often (but not always) end in “ly”.
Also, NEVER & NOT are negative adverbs

7. PREPOSITIONS
Prepositions commence phrases.
e.g. in the creek on the roof

Prepositions are often little words
Prepositions often show position
e.g. in, on, under, around, among, through, among, up, below, with, for, from, to.
Spot was ...(insert a preposition here) ......... the kennel.

8. CONJUNCTIONS
Conjunctions are “joining words”. They join words that are similar e.g. they join two similar words, or two phrases or two clauses.
Common conjunctions are: “and”, “but”, “yet”, “or”, “nor”.
They join similar words
  e.g. 2 nouns: apples and oranges; 2 verbs: jumped and swam.
They join phrases
  Water was on the carpet and over the tiles.
They join clauses
  Mary was happy but she still did not come.

9. INTERJECTIONS - (Not used much in written language)
Interjections express surprise or emotion.
e.g. Wow! Ouch!