

Basic Grammar Rules: Reference Sheet

A **noun** names a person, place, thing, or idea. It can take the singular or plural form.

Plural forms:

- In most cases, add **-s** at the end of a word.
 - For nouns ending in **-y**, add **-ies**.
 - For nouns ending in **-s**, **-ch**, or **-sh**, add **-es**.
-

Pronouns take the places of nouns. They include “I”, “you”, “he/she”, “we”, “it”, and “they.” As a rule, pronouns must refer clearly to an antecedent (the noun they are replacing).

- Marvin bought a new **phone** (*antecedent*). **It** (*pronoun*) sports a high-end software.
-

Verbs convey action or a state of being. Verbs also indicate tense (past/present/future).

- Lila **danced** yesterday/Lila dances every day/Lila **will dance** tomorrow.
-

Adjectives describe nouns or pronouns, while **adverbs** modify verbs.

- She is a **good** singer. (adjective)
 - She sings **well**. (adverb)
-

Commas indicate pauses and can serve many purposes. They can be used to separate items in a list, or to join two clauses with a conjunction such as “and” or “but.”

- I ate sausages, eggs, and ham for breakfast.
 - It was very hot, but we had to work outside anyway.
-

Semicolons can take the place of conjunctions (such as *and*, *but*, *if*) and are often placed in front of introductory words, such as “therefore” or “however.”

- She was happy to see him; however, she was still hurt.
-

Most **apostrophes** indicate contractions or possession.

- Please **don’t** leave the door open at night. (*contraction*)
 - **Robert’s** hat looks better on me. (*possessive noun*)
-

Copyright 2019 by TCK Publishing

www.TCKPublishing.com

<http://www.tckpublishing.com/basic-grammar-rules>

