The Book of Grammar Lesson One

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10H Mr. McBride

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Introduction to Sophomore English Grammar Unit

English class involves the study of language, and grammar is the study of language at its most microscopic level. A solid understanding of the grammar of the English language will enable you to read and write with more clarity and a greater depth of understanding and confidence. The study of grammar will be helpful to you on the Regents Test. Most of you will also be taking the SAT, which, as of last year, extensively tests for a fairly sophisticated understanding of grammar. This unit will offer you the opportunity to gain a solid understanding of the fundamentals of grammar necessary for your future studies.

How to Access Online Lessons

- All grammar lessons will be available online. Follow the link from the class web page.
 - Worksheets will be available there in the Adobe Acrobat format so that you can print them out at home.
 - The class website address is:
 - www.pagefarm.net

Lesson One: Identifying parts of speech and clauses

- By the end of this lesson you should be able to identify the following things in a sentence:
 - The parts of speech
 - Interpositions, nouns, pronouns, adjectives, verbs, adverbs
 - Clauses

Preposition

- A preposition is a connecting word used to show the relation in space or time of a noun or pronoun to some other word in the sentence.
 - "The boy walked <u>under</u> the bridge."
 - "We agreed to meet <u>after</u> class."
 - "The Postmaster affixed the stamp to the letter."
 - "The bird flew <u>over</u> the text."
 - "The bird flew <u>under</u> the text."

Noun

- A noun is a word that names a person, place, thing, or abstraction. Abstractions include emotions, ideas, qualities, or attributes.
 - "Jim fidgeted during the lesson."
 - "He didn't like being in the <u>classroom</u>."
 - "He chewed at his pencil."
 - "The lesson concerned the nature of justice."



Pronoun

- A Pronoun is a word used in the place of a noun. Its most common use is as a substitute word employed to prevent the awkward repetition of a noun.
 - "<u>She</u> likes going to the beach."
 - "<u>We</u> went to the movies."
 - "The teacher saw Jim's I-pod and told Jim to put <u>it</u> away."
 - "The man didn't know <u>his</u> own strength."

Adjective

- An adjective is a word that describes a noun (or pronoun) and modifies its meaning.
 - "Henry owned a <u>red</u> car."
 - "It was <u>fast</u>."
 - "He was a <u>reckless</u> driver."

Verb

- A verb is a word that expresses action or helps to make a statement.
 - "Jane <u>ran</u> home from school."
 - "She <u>was</u> late."
 - "Conrad <u>washed</u> the dishes."

Adverb

An adverb is a word used to modify a verb, an adjective, or another adverb.

- "The athletic girl ran gracefully."
- "He jumped <u>high</u>."
- "The <u>extremely</u> athletic girl ran for our school."
- "She jumped <u>very</u> high."

The Clause

- A clause is a group of words that has a noun or pronoun (a subject) and a verb and that is used as part of a sentence.
 - The difference between a sentence, which also has a subject and verb, and a clause is that a clause can function as part of a sentence. When a sentence has more than one subject-and-verb combination, each combination is called a clause. The next slide shows examples of this...

Examples of clauses...

- "Stories entertain, and people listen."
 - Clause One: Stories entertain
 - Clause Two: people listen
 - Each of these clauses contains a subject and verb combination.
- "Many people like tragic stories, and tragic stories are very popular."
 - Clause One: Many people like tragic stories
 - Clause Two: tragic stories are very popular

Lesson One: Identifying parts of speech and clauses

- You should now be able to identify the following things in a sentence:
 - The parts of speech
 - Interpositions, nouns, pronouns, adjectives, verbs, adverbs
 - Clauses

The end of Lesson One

Quiz on Thursday, October 4