GRAMMAR RULES



Rule #1
A noun is a person, place, thing or idea. A verb is an action word.
The bird flew.

Rule #2
A complete sentence must include a subject and a predicate.
The angry bird flew quickly across the sky.

Rule #3
The only exception to the above rules is the imperative sentence.
Go away!

Rule #4
Adjectives can go directly before the noun they describe, or after it, if separated by a verb.
- The angry bird flew.
- The bird is angry.

Rule #5
A compound subject includes two or more simple subjects.
The bird and the plane flew.

Rule #6
A compound predicate includes two or more predicates.
The bird flew and sang.

Rule #7
A compound sentence includes more than one subject or predicate.
The bird sang and the plane flew.

Rule #8
An independent clause consists of a subject and a predicate, like a complete sentence.
The plane flew.

Rule #9
A dependent clause cannot form a complete sentence without additional words.
The plane flew when the bird sang.

Rule #10
The direct object is the noun being acted on by the verb.
The bird ate seeds.

Rule #11
The indirect object is the noun which receives the direct object.
The bird gave the seeds to me.

Rule #12
When written in passive voice, the object of the verb becomes the subject of the sentence.
The bird ate seeds.
--> The seeds were eaten by the bird.

Rule #13
Conjugations of the verb "to be" are essential to passive voice.
The seeds are being eaten by the bird.

Rule #14
Sentences written in passive voice can omit the subject of the acting verb.
The seeds were eaten.

Rule #15
In passive voice, the subject of the acting verb is connected by a prepositional phrase.
The bird ate seeds after lunchtime.

Rule #16
Prepositional phrases are sometimes separated by commas.
The bird, which belonged to my mother, ate seeds.

Rule #17
Adverbs function like prepositions.
The bird ate seeds quickly.