Parts of Speech – A Basic Review

Noun: a person, place, thing, or idea; can be concrete (something with a physical presence) or abstract (an idea or concept with no physical presence or properties)

Nouns can be singular or plural. A singular noun has an “s” or “es” on the end. A plural noun does not. Nouns can also be possessive—in ownership of another noun. An apostrophe and an “s” are put on the end of possessive nouns. The apostrophe is placed before the “s” in a singular possessive noun and after the “s” in a plural possessive noun (e.g. “the boy’s locker” versus “the boys’ lockers”)

Pronoun: a word that refers to a noun or noun phrase

Personal pronouns refer to people.
Examples: I, you, he, she, it, we, they, him, them, my, mine, your, his, her, its, our, their

Reflective pronouns refer back to personal pronouns.
Examples: myself, ourselves, yourself, yourselves, himself, herself, themselves

Demonstrative pronouns point out particular nouns.
Examples: that, these, this, those

Adjective: a word that describes a noun or pronoun (e.g. “fast runner”)

Verb: an action; it tells what happens or what exists (e.g. “ran”)

Verbs have tenses. A tense can be present (happens right now), past (happened in the past), future (will happen in the future), present progressive (happening right now), past progressive (was happening in the past), future progressive (will be happening in the future), present perfect (has happened in a set time period and is still happening), past perfect (had happened in a set time period and has stopped happening by now), and future perfect (will have happened in a set time period in the future).

Verbs can be singular or plural. Usually, but not always, a singular present tense verb has an “s” on the end. A plural verb does not have an “s” on the end.

Adverb: a word that describes a verb, an adjective, or another adverb (e.g. “ran quickly”)

Preposition: a word or group of words that shows the relationship among the words in a sentence

Conjunction: a word that connects or joins phrases (e.g. for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so)