Grammar & Reading Comprehension Cheat Sheet (Theory Only)

Grammar Concepts

1. Subject-Verb Agreement
- The **verb must match** the subject in **number (singular/plural).**
- **Examples:**
   She sings well. (Singular subject → Singular verb)
   They sing well. (Plural subject → Plural verb)
- **Common Errors:**
- **Incorrect:** The list of books **are** on the table.
- **Correct:** The list of books **is** on the table.

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2. Misplaced Modifiers
- **A word or phrase incorrectly placed, causing confusion.**
- **Example:**
- **Incorrect:** She nearly drove her kids to school for an hour.
- **Correct:** She drove her kids to school for nearly an hour.

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3. Squinting Modifiers
- **A modifier placed between two words, making meaning unclear.**
- **Example:**
- **Incorrect:** Running quickly improves health. *(Does "quickly" modify "running" or "improves"?)*
- **Correct:** Quickly running improves health. / Running improves health quickly.

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4. Dangling Modifier
- **A descriptive phrase not clearly related to the sentence subject.**
- **Example:**
- **Incorrect:** Driving to work, the traffic was heavy. *(Who was driving?)*
- **Correct:** While driving to work, I noticed the traffic was heavy.

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5. Fused Sentence
- **Two sentences incorrectly joined without punctuation or conjunctions.**
- **Example:**
- **Incorrect:** She loves painting she spends hours on it.
- **Correct:** She loves painting, and she spends hours on it.

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6. Comma Splice
- **Two independent clauses joined only by a comma (without a conjunction).**
- **Example:**

- **Incorrect:** He is tired, he needs rest.
- **Correct:** He is tired, so he needs rest.

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7. Sentence Fragment

- **An incomplete sentence missing a subject or verb.**
- **Example:**
- **Incorrect:** Because she was late. *(Incomplete thought)*
- **Correct:** Because she was late, she missed the meeting.

Reading Comprehension Strategies

1. Skimming

- **Reading quickly to get a general idea.**
- **Used for:** News articles, reports, browsing documents.
- **Tip:** Focus on headings, subheadings, and keywords.

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2. Scanning

- **Looking for specific information without reading everything.**
- **Used for:** Finding dates, names, keywords in exams.
- **Tip:** Move eyes quickly over the text, locate numbers or bold words.

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3. Intensive Reading

- **Reading carefully for detailed understanding.**
- **Used for:** Studying textbooks, contracts, technical manuals.
- **Tip:** Read each sentence carefully, analyze meaning, take notes.

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4. Extensive Reading

- **Reading for general understanding and enjoyment.**
- **Used for:** Novels, blogs, magazines.
- **Tip:** Read naturally, without stopping at every unknown word.

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5. Prediction in Reading

- **Guessing what will come next based on context.**
- **Used for:** Making sense of unfamiliar words.
- **Tip:** Use titles, headings, and previous sentences to predict meaning.

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6. Contextual Meaning

- **Understanding word meaning from surrounding words.**
- **Example:**
- **Sentence:** The **arid** desert had little rainfall.
- **Context Clue:** "Little rainfall" suggests "arid" means **dry**.

This **Grammar & Reading Cheat Sheet** covers **subject-verb agreement, modifiers, sentence errors, and reading strategies (skimming, scanning, intensive/extensive reading, prediction, and context clues).** Let me know if you need more details!