vi (and vim)

ESCAPE (press ESC key to enter escape/command mode)

i enter insert mode, at cursor (type away)

a enter append/insert mode, immediately to the right of cursor (even at end of line)

R overwrite mode, at cursor [note capitalization]

delete a singe character the cursor is on
dd delete (cut) the entire line the cursor is on
dd delete (cut) 10 lines (this one and 9 below)

yy yank (copy) this full line

3yy yank (copy) three lines, this one and next two)

paste the most recently yanked/cut or deleted character or line(s) (immediately after this

one)

undo last command (repeat to undo previous commands)

join this line and the next, with a space in between [note capitalization]

o go to beginning of line the cursor is on

\$ go to end of line the cursor is on

ZZ write file or save changes, and exit [note capitalization]

OTHER COMMANDS (generally must hit ENTER/RETURN key after each command)

/hello search forward to find the next instance of word "hello" in text

/ repeat the last find

?hello search backward to find the previous instance of word "hello" in text

:q! do NOT write file or save changes, just exit

:w write changes to this file

:w file2 copy the current state of this file to new file named file2, and start editing that file

:wq write changes to file and quit (exit)

:\$ go to the last line of file:1 go to the first line of file

:218 go to line number 218, if there is one (or to last line of file if shorter than 218 lines)

set nu turn on line numbers (use set nu! to toggle line numbers back off)

:%s/delete/del/g substitute/replace "delete" with "del", globally (entire file)

:%s/,//g substitute/replace all commas, globally (careful! remember, :w to save first, u for undo, :q! to

"bail out")

:%s/\$//g globally remove (replace with nothing) all dollar signs (\$)

:!ls run a shell command (ls, in this case), then return to editing this file

:UP ARROW navigate UP (or DOWN) through previous commands used in this mode [note

ENTER/RETURN not needed]