Basic vi Commands

Moving around:

h   back one space
l   forward one space
j   down one line
k   up one line

w   forward one word
b   back one word

#G go to line number #   (:# will also go to line number # when not in edit mode)
G   go to the last line

Getting rid of things:

d   delete one or more of h, j, k, l, w, or b (e.g. dw to delete a word, d2w or 2dw to delete two words, etc)
dd   delete an entire line
#dd delete # number of lines (3dd deletes 3 lines)
D   delete from current cursor position to end of line.

Yanking text:

y   works similar to the d command. y takes text from the file without deleting the text.
y w   copies a word but does not delete the word
yy   copies an entire line
#yy   copies # number of lines

Pasting text:

The commands to paste are p and P.
First delete or yank the desired text.
p   paste text after the current line
P   paste text before the cursor position.
Specifying count before the paste command pastes text the specified number of times.

Adding and changing text:

a   add text after the current cursor position
A   append text to the end of the current line
i   insert text before cursor
o   open up the next line – add after the current line
O   open the previous line – add before the current line
c   change one or more h, j, k, l, w, or b (cw changes a word, c3w changes 3 words, etc.)
cc   change the entire current line

Undoing mistakes, saving changes

u   undo the most recent command

To save a document, first use <esc> to get out of edit mode, then

:w   save changes without leaving vi
:wq   save changes and leave vi
:q!   leave vi without making changes

Finding patterns:

Use <esc> to get out of edit mode, then

/pattern   to find pattern
n   to find the next occurrence of the pattern

Making substitutions

There are several ways to make substitutions. For global substitutions, use <esc> to get out of edit mode, then

:g/original_pattern/s//new_pattern/g