HESI A2 Cheat Sheet

GRAMMAR

Parts of Speech	
Parts of Speech	‣ **Nouns:** common *(dog, apple, chair)*, proper *(Alec, New York City, Atlantic Ocean)*, collective *(team, flock, litter, batch)*, abstract *(happiness, truth, friendship, beauty)*.
	‣ **Pronouns:** personal *(he, she, it, they)*, possessive *(his, its, mine, theirs)*, reflexive *(myself, herself, themselves, oneself)*.
	‣ **Verbs:** action *(run, swim, help, drive)*, stative *(love, want, own, resemble)*, linking *(be, become, seem, appear)*, auxiliary *(be, have, do, can, will)*.
	‣ **Adjectives:** comparative *(larger, cheaper, more beautiful)*, possessive *(my, your, its, her, his)*, demonstrative *(this, that, these, those)*, proper *(Napoleonic, Shakespearian)*, distributive *(each, every, either, neither)*.
	‣ **Adverbs:** conjunctive *(meanwhile, instead, therefore, however)*, frequency *(frequently, occasionally, sometimes, usually, never)*, time *(today, soon, later, forever, yet, still)*, manner *(angrily, cautiously, hungrily, nicely, slowly)*, degree *(extremely, deeply, fairly, less, least, much)*, place *(here, there, anywhere, in, out, on, off, over, left, right, north)*.
	‣ **Conjunctions:** coordinating *(and, but, or, so)*, subordinating *(because, although, before, since)*.
	‣ **Preposition:** movement *(into, onto, over)*, place *(inside, on, behind)*, time *(at, in, during)*.
	‣ **Interjections:** *(eek, wow, oops, phew)*.
Predicate	‣ **Adjective:** an adjective that describes the subject of a linking verb.
	Eg. Your proposal was risky.
	‣ **Nominative:** a word or group of words that completes a linking verb and renames the subject.
	Eg. Your proposal was a risk.
Clauses	**Independent clause:** can form sentences on their own; they are always finite.
	Eg. She went to the store.
	Dependent clause: can not form sentences on their own; they can be finite or non-finite.
	Eg. She went to the store because she was hungry.
	She went to the store before meeting her friend.
	Declarative sentence: (s) + verb (v) + x
	‣ make statements about how things are and how they are not
	Eg. Classes begin in September.

Interrogative sentence: (wh-word) + auxiliary/modal verb + subject + verb + x
‣ most commonly function as questions
Eg. What classes begin in September?
Do classes begin in September?

Imperative sentence: verb + x
‣ most commonly function as commands, instructions, or orders
Eg. Come on!
Leave me alone!

Exclamative sentence: What + noun + subject + verb/ How + adjective or adverb + subject + verb/ Auxiliary or modal verb + subject + verb
‣ most commonly used to express surprise or shock
Eg. What a lovely colleague you are!
Wasn't she great?

Direct objects: shows who or what the action of the verb affects.
Eg. Nobody writes letters these days.

Indirect object: receives or is affected by the direct object; always needs a direct object with it and always comes before the direct object.
Eg. She gave her sister the bracelet.
Do I owe you some money?

Common grammatical mistakes	**Subject-verb agreement:** a singular subject takes a singular verb, and a plural subject takes a plural verb. *Eg. The list is on the desk.* *The items are on the desk.* **Rule 1.** A subject will come before a phrase beginning with *of*. *Eg. A group of students goes to class.* **NOT** *A group of students go to class.* **Rule 2.** Two singular subjects connected by or, either/or, or neither/nor require a singular verb. *Eg. My sister or my brother is going to the store.* **Rule 3.** The verb in an *or, either/or,* or *neither/nor* sentence agrees with the noun or pronoun closest to it. *Eg. Neither the coats nor the scarf is in the closet.* *Neither the scarf nor the coats are in the closet.* **Rule 4.** Use a singular verb with distances, periods of time, sums of money, etc., when considered as a unit. *Eg. Three years is not a viable period.* **Rule 5.** The word *were* replaces *was* in sentences that express a wish or are contrary to fact. *Eg. I wish it were Saturday.* **!** When the subject and verb are separated by words like *along with*, *as well as*, *besides*, *not*, *etc.*, use a singular verb when the subject is singular. **These words are not part of the subject.** **The comma** • **in a series** - Use commas to separate items in a list of 3 or more items. • **in a compound sentence** - Use a comma before *and, but, or, nor, for, so,* or *yet* to join two independent clauses that form a compound sentence.

Run-on sentences: two independent clauses that run together without proper punctuation/ appropriate conjunctions.
Eg. Lilah plays tennis every weekend she wants to go pro.
Correction: *Lilah plays tennis every weekend; she wants to go pro.*

Ways to correct a run-on sentence:
‣ divide clauses into two sentences
‣ insert a semicolon between the two clauses
‣ use a comma with either a coordinating or subordinating conjunction

Possessive pronouns: *mine, yours, his, hers, ours, theirs*
! Possessive pronouns **DO NOT** have an apostrophe.

Vague pronouns: a pronoun that doesn't refer to a specific person or thing in the sentence.
Eg. After putting the cup next to the bottle, Maria washed it.
Correction: *After putting the cup next to the bottle, Maria washed the cup.*

Sentence fragments: a phrase or clause that lacks an element (a subject/verb), and thus can't function as an independent sentence.
Eg. Spooky, scary skeletons.
Correction: *Spooky, scary skeletons send shivers down your spine.*

Misplaced modifiers: words, phrases, or clauses that are separated from the word they describe, creating confusion.
Eg. Blue women's coats.
Correction: *Women's blue coats.*

Troublesome word pairs	**Affect vs. Effect** *Affect* denotes having an effect or influence, while the verb *effect* goes beyond mere influence; it refers to the actual achievement of a final result. **Among vs. Between** *Among* is more appropriate where the emphasis is on distribution rather than individual relationships. **Amount vs. Number** *Amount* is mainly used with mass nouns, while *number* is regularly used with count nouns. **Good vs. Well** *Good* is emotionally charged and emphatic, while *well* is standard and neutral. **Bad vs. Badly** *Bad* means failing to reach an acceptable standard, while *badly* means in a bad manner. **Can vs. May** The use of *can* to ask or grant permission is very common but *may* is considered to be more appropriate in formal contexts. **Farther vs. Further** *Farther* is taking over the meaning of distance, while *further* is used where there is no notion of distance. **Fewer vs. Less** *Fewer* applies to matters of number and modifies plural nouns, while *less* applies to matters of degree, value, or amount and modifies collective nouns, mass nouns, or nouns denoting an abstract whole.