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Comprehensive Grammar Syntax Cheat Sheet

1. Parts of Speech

- **Noun:** Person, place, thing, or idea (e.g., *London*, *courage*).
- **Pronoun:** Replaces a noun (e.g., *he*, *they*, *who*).
- **Verb:** Action or state of being (e.g., *run*, *is*, *seem*).
- **Adjective:** Modifies a noun (e.g., *bright*, *fast*).
- **Adverb:** Modifies a verb, adjective, or adverb (e.g., *very*, *quickly*).
- **Preposition:** Shows relation in space/time (e.g., *in*, *on*, *under*).
- **Conjunction:** Connects clauses/words (e.g., *and*, *but*, *because*).
- **Interjection:** Expresses emotion (e.g., *Oh!*, *Wow!*).

2. Sentence Structure

- **Subject:** Who/what performs the action.
- **Predicate:** Contains the verb and tells what the subject does.
- **Independent Clause:** Can stand alone as a sentence.
- **Dependent Clause:** Cannot stand alone; relies on an independent clause.

Sentence Types

- **Simple:** 1 Independent Clause.
- **Compound:** 2+ Independent Clauses (joined by FANBOYS).
- **Complex:** 1 Independent + 1+ Dependent Clause.
- **Compound-Complex:** 2+ Independent + 1+ Dependent Clause.

3. Subject-Verb Agreement

- **Basic Rule:** Singular subjects take singular verbs; plural subjects take plural verbs.
- **Example:** *The dog barks. The dogs bark.*
- **Compound Subjects:** Joined by *and* usually take a plural verb (e.g., *Tom and Jerry are friends*).
- **Indefinite Pronouns:** *Everyone*, *anybody*, *someone* are singular.

4. Common Punctuation

- **Comma (,):** Separates items in a series, joins independent clauses with a conjunction.
- **Semicolon (;):** Links closely related independent clauses without a conjunction.
- **Colon (:):** Introduces a list, quote, or explanation.
- **Apostrophe ('):** Indicates possession or contractions (e.g., *Sarah's book*, *don't*).

5. Active vs. Passive Voice

- **Active:** Subject performs the action.
Ex: The chef cooked the meal.
- **Passive:** Subject receives the action.
Ex: The meal was cooked by the chef.

6. Common Confusions

- **Its vs. It's:** *Its* is possessive; *it's* is the contraction of *it is*.
- **Their/There/They're:** Possessive / Location / Contraction of *they are*.
- **Affect vs. Effect:** *Affect* is usually a verb (to influence); *effect* is usually a noun (a result).