**Review for Upcoming Grammar Quiz**

Things to know:

**Noun**: A person, place, thing or idea. Be able to identify nouns in a sentence.

Examples: Jane Smith, Colorado, novel, independence.

**Word Choice**: You can improve your writing by choosing just the right noun. Choosing an exact noun is much more effective than stringing a whole bunch of adjectives together.

Example: Instead of saying “tree,” be specific and say “pine.”

**Connotation and Denotation:** Know the difference. Remember cockroach poems and the associations we made with the words in each poem. We often talk about negative and positive connotations.

* **Connotation:** an idea or feeling that a word invokes in addition to its literal or primary meaning. For example, The word “discipline” has unhappy connotations of punishment and repression.
* **Denotation:** the dictionary definition of a word

**Possessive Nouns**.

Rules:

1. When a noun is singular and you want to show possession (ownership) add an ‘s

**Jane’s car the book’s cover the week’s end**

1. When a noun is plural (more than one) and ends in an s add an apostrophe only.

**The cheerleaders’ bus the boys’ bikes**

1. When a noun is plural and does not end in an s add an ‘s.

**The children’s room the two people’s testimony**

**Common Errors with Apostrophes**

**Whose**: indicates possession vs. **Who’s**  which is a contraction, short for who is

**Its**: which indicates possession vs. **It’s** which is a contraction, short for it is

**Your** : which indicates possession vs. **You’re** which is a contraction, short for you are

**Their**: which indicates possession vs. **they’re** which is a contraction, short for they are

And **There** which indicates a location.