Proverbs 30:5 says, "Every word of God is tested; He is a shield to those who take refuge in Him."

Revelation 22:18-19 says we must not add nor subtract from the words of "the book of this prophecy."

So the very words are inspired by God and are critical to proper interpretation of the written Scriptures.

In the Bible, as in all written literature, there are various types of words which are used. Collectively, these words are called "parts of speech" or "parts of language."

To understand a passage accurately we need to be able to spot and identify these words because these words show up in the Bible and are the key to accurate understanding and interpretation. There are different main kinds of words that are used in the Bible:
 1) Nouns
 2) Pronouns
 3) Adjectives
 4) Adverbs
 5) Prepositions
 6) Conjunctions
 7) Articles
 8) Verbs
 9) Participles
10) Infinitives.

Now we will assume that you have forgotten everything you have ever learned about these different kinds of words and are going to go through these things from the ground up:

QUESTION #16 – What is a noun?

Biblical nouns are critical to the sense of any context or sentence. The first verse of the Bible in Genesis 1:1 contains three nouns: "In the beginning **God** created the **heavens** and the **earth**."

A noun is a word used for a person, place, thing or idea. There are four categories of nouns:

Category #1 - Proper Noun

A proper noun gives a specific name of a person, place or thing. A proper noun always begins with a capital letter.
Specific Name - Lewis Sperry Chafer;
Specific Place - Kalamazoo, Michigan;
Specific Thing - Texas Corners Bible Church.

Category #2 - Common Noun

A common noun gives a general name to a person, place, thing or idea.

General Name - a teacher;
General place - a church;
General thing - a book, a pen, a pencil;
General idea - paycheck, government, friendship, insomnia

There are two types of common nouns:
1) Concrete common noun that is concretely seen - man, dog, house, organ, piano.
2) Abstract common noun that is not concretely seen - love, grace, hope, fear, sadness.

Category #3 - Collective Noun

A collective noun sees a group or class as a whole and usually does not see it as plural.
For example, "flock" or "herd" or "church" or "team" or "brethren."

A good example of this is seen in I Corinthians 10:32:
"Jews" is a collective noun referring to those physically related to Abraham without Christ.
"Greeks" is a collective noun referring to those not physically related to Abraham without Christ.
"Church" is a collective noun referring to all those who have believed on Jesus Christ.

Category #4 - Compound Noun

A compound noun is two or more nouns put together. Sometimes a hyphen is used in a compound noun.

Romans 16:3 **-** "fellow workers"; Colossians 4:10 - "fellow prisoner"; Rev. 22:9 - "fellow servant"

For example: toothpaste, haircut, bedroom, fellow-servant, fellow-prisoner, daughter-in-law

A noun may be either singular or plural. Gen. 1:1- "heavens" "earth"

For example, dog/dogs; cat/cats; car/cars

A noun may be masculine, feminine or neuter.

For example, father, mother, son, daughter. Neuter - table, cap, bed, umbrella.

QUESTION #17 – What is a pronoun?

A pronoun is a word that is used to take the place of a noun or another pronoun to avoid needless <u>repetition</u>.

The actual word that the pronoun replaces is called the <u>antecedent</u>.

It is extremely important to identify the antecedent in Biblical passages because this is a key to unlocking the truth of a passage or context.

A good illustration of this is found in **II Peter 2:20**. This text has been butchered by various interpreters simply because they do not ask one simple question of **verse 20** - who is the antecedent of the pronoun "they." Some have concluded based on this verse that one could lose salvation.

If the purpose of a pronoun is to take the place of a noun, then who or what is the noun that the pronoun "they" or "them" is replacing?

If you backtrack in the context to verse 1, it is referring to "false prophets" who indulge their flesh and have corrupt desires and despise authority (v. 10). Verse 17, these are springs without water, that is they are unsaved false ministers. Verses 20-21 say it would be better for these false prophets and ministers to have never known anything about God or Jesus Christ.

This has nothing to do with a believer losing salvation. We may conclude that from the use of the "pronoun." Now in the Bible there are about eight different types of pronouns we may observe:

<u>Pronoun Type #1</u> - Personal pronoun refers to a person or thing that it replaces.

Pronouns such as I, you, it, he, she, him, her, we, you, they. These all fall into this category. John 3:16 - "He gave" refers to God; believes "in Him" refers to believe in Son.

<u>Pronoun Type #2</u> - Relative pronoun relates various clauses and pieces of information to the <u>noun</u> it replaces.

A relative pronoun always introduces a subordinate clause to the noun.

Relative pronouns are "who," "which," "what," "that," "whoever," "whom."

Matthew 2:9 - personal pronoun "they" refers to "magi" (2:7) and relative pronoun "which." Refers to more information about the "star" (2:9).

Mark 6:16 - relative pronoun "whom" refers to John. We are introduced to significant data Herod had beheaded John and he thought he had risen from the dead

Ephesians 1:3 - the relative pronoun "who" introduces us to blessed data from God the
   Father that goes clear to the end of verse 14.

Pronoun Type #3 - Demonstrative pronoun is a pronoun used to <u>specifically</u> point out
                    or put special emphasis on a noun subject.

Demonstrative pronouns are "this" "that" "these" "those." These are very important pronouns
to spot.

A Biblical writer wants to point out something specifically when he uses this pronoun.

Matthew 3:3 - The demonstrative "this" is used to point out that John is the one referred to
                    by Isaiah. John and no other is the one Isaiah predicted by his statement.

Romans 9:9 - The demonstrative "this" is used in reference to a specific time.

Hebrew 7:1 - The demonstrative "this" is used in reference to Melchizedek to stress this one and
                    no other.

Daniel 12:1- The demonstrative "that" is used to specify a specific time. Many times in
                    prophetic passages there will be a demonstrative used "in that day" which
                    specifically refers to a prophetic moment of time in the future
                    (Is. 2:11, 12, 17; Joel 3:1, 18; Zech. 13:1, 4; 14:1, 4, 6, 8).

Pronoun Type #4 - Reflexive or Intensive pronoun used to <u>intensify</u> the noun antecedent.

A reflexive pronoun is typically formed by adding the word "same" or "self" to emphasize the
point.

Luke 7:7 - the reflexive pronoun "myself" is used to emphasize the centurions unworthiness.

John 5:19 - Jesus uses the reflexive pronoun "Himself" to show His connection to the Father.
                    v. 30

Romans 8:16, 26 - the reflexive pronoun "Himself" is used to stress the Holy Spirit's work.

Philippians 2:2 - the reflexive pronoun "same" is used stressing same mind and love.

II Thess. 3:17 - Paul uses his proper noun name and then uses a personal pronoun "I" and then
                    uses a reflexive pronoun "myself" or "my own."