

Active English

‘Understanding Grammatical Elements to improve Writing’



Expectation Y1-6

Y1	Y2	Y3/4
Letter	Adverb	Adverb
Capital letter	Adjective	Preposition
Word	Noun	Determiner
Singular	Noun + Adjective	Synonym
Plural	Verbs	Antonym
Sentence	Past/Present/Future Tense	Conjunction
Punctuation	Pronoun	Word family
Full stop	Opener	Prefix
Question mark	Time/Adverb	Clause
Exclamation mark	Simile	Direct speech
Noun	Phrase	Consonant, vowel
Adjective	Conjunctions (both cards)	Inverted commas (or 'speech marks')
	Statement	Subordinate clause
	Question	Main Clause
	Exclamation	Simple Sentence
	Command	Complex Sentence
	Suffix	Compound Sentence
	Apostrophe	
	Comma	
	Compound words	

Y5	Y6
Bracket	Subject
Dash	Object
Cohesion	Active
Ambiguity	Passive
Modal verb	Ellipsis
Relative pronoun	Hyphen
Relative clause	Colon
Parenthesis	Semi-colon
Direct speech	Bullet points
Indirect speech	Question tag
	Personal
	Impersonal
	Phrase
	Subjunctive
	Comparative
	Superlative
	Pronouns:
	Relative,
	Possessive,
	Interrogative,
	Reflexive,
	Personal

Subject Knowledge



Noun

Y1-4

Common Noun (concrete)

This refers to people or things in general.

Examples:

dog

tree

bridge

chair

Proper Noun

This type of noun identifies a particular person/place or thing. It starts with a capital letter.

Examples:

James

Africa

Friday

Key Stage 2

21

Write a sentence using the word cover as a **noun**.
Remember to punctuate your answer correctly.

Key Stage 1

11

Circle the **three** nouns in the sentence below.

A whale has an enormous heart that can weigh as
much as a small car.

Year 2-3

Pronoun... When you're a pro at something you're like a professor!
So...the clown is wearing a professor's hat!!

Pronoun

- Used instead of a noun.
- It stops the noun being repeated again and again.

Examples: me, him, he, his, himself, who, what, that, they, we, it

Sentences:

Sam went to the shop.

He went to the shop.

Key Stage 2

11

Circle all the **pronouns** in the sentence below.

They bought new jumpers for themselves and a warm scarf
for Dad.

1 mark

Year 1-4

An adjective is a describing word.

Look at this scene-
what words can we
use to describe the
scene?

The 'A' symbol
represents Adjective.

Adjective

An adjective gives more information about a noun. It normally goes before the noun.

Examples:

Tall, extensive, vertical, beautiful,

Sentence:

The green bird pecked the big, juicy apple.

Key Stage 2

12

Complete the sentence with an **adjective** formed from the verb create.

The artist was very _____ and produced many original works.

 1 mark

Key Stage 1

7

What type of word is brave in the sentence below?

The *brave* mouse marched up to the lion.

Tick **one**.

an adverb

an adjective

a verb

a noun

Basic
Year 2-4

Noun Clown lives in
Adjective Land.
These images need
to go together.

Noun Phrase

Expanded noun phrases allow exact information to be communicated in a quick and concise way. The adding of adjectives before nouns is a basic skill in the building of description. It is the simplest way to expand a noun phrase

Noun Phrase:

Tiny girl

red shoes

large box

Key Stage 2

43

Underline the longest possible **noun phrase** in the sentence below.

That book about the Romans was interesting.

Year 2-4

Verb

A verb is a
doing word
or an action.

‘Verb step
on the Kerb’

A verb is a
being word
is/was.

Key Stage 1

12

Circle the **verbs** in the sentence below.

Yesterday was the school sports day and Jo wore her
new running shoes.

Year 2-4

Adverb (Advert)

This is a television because adverb is like the word advert on television.

Usually an adverb ends with ly like the word 'telly.'

Adverb

- An adverb gives more information about a verb.
- It tells you how, when, where and how often something happens.
- Most adverbs end in -ly but not all.

Examples:

quickly, slowly, playfully, nicely, steadily, quietly, carefully, soon, very

Sentence:

1. The dog ran quickly
2. Next, a dog leapt onto the table as the tiny, fluffy mouse slowly nibbled the hard cheese.

(Next gives you information about when the dog leapt. Slowly tells you how the mouse nibbled the cheese.)

Ideas!



- Slowly, the tiger crept through the forest.
- Incredibly slowly, the tiger crept through the forest.
- Very slowly, the tiger crept through the forest.

Key Stage 1

6

What type of word is underlined in the sentence below?

Poppy held the baby rabbit gently in her arms.

Tick **one**.

an adjective

an adverb

a noun

a verb

Year 3/4

The box shows the position of objects with the arrows .

The clock has been added to demonstrate time related prepositions.

Preposition

- Shows how things are related.
- Describes the position of something, the time when something happens, or the way in which something was done.
- It can link nouns and pronouns to other words.

Examples:

Position: above, against, behind, below, near, on, onto, outside, over, through

Time: after, before, during

Sentence:

Behind the table sat an old man.

Key Stage 2

20

Tick **all** the sentences that contain a **preposition**.

Ali locked the door before he left.

The shops are beyond the main road.

My brother is behind me in the race.

Barry is below Andrew in the register.



Prepositional Phrase!



- Eg: Under the dark trees stood a fierce tiger.
- Eg: After the storm, everything went quiet.

Y2-6



Get children to point in the direction depending on the tense of the word, phrase or sentence.

Can they change the tense of the word in the sentence?

Tenses

Definition:

- The verb in a sentence shows the tense.
- The tense shows when the action takes place.

Examples

Present Tense: shows what is happening now. It usually has an s ending or no ending.

Past Tense: This describes something which has happened in the past. It usually ends with ed.

Sentence:

The bird pecks the apple (present tense)

The bird pecked the apple (past tense)

Key Stage 2

5

Which sentence below is written in the **past tense**?

Tick one.

That is the oldest house in our village.

The original part of the house dates from 1760.

The roof was replaced in 1970.

The owners plan to open the house to the public.

Key Stage 1

14

Tick to show whether each sentence is in the **past tense** or the **present tense**.

Sentence	Past tense	Present tense
Becky was thinking.		
I am reading my book.		
Jo is going for a walk.		

Antonym and Synonym

Basic
Years 3&4+

Definition

Antonym are words that mean the opposite of each other.

Example:

Wet and dry

Hard and soft

Cold and hot

Definition

Synonyms are words that mean the same or nearly the same as each other .

Example:

Big and huge

Tiny and small

Delicious and yummy

Key Stage 2

19

Circle the two words in the sentence below that are **synonyms** of each other.

He was lucky to win first prize – he knew it was fortunate that his closest rival had decided not to take part.

23

Draw a line to match each word to its correct **antonym**.

Word

meandering

sympathetic

evade

plausible

Antonym

confront

unfeeling

unbelievable

straight

Elements to enhance writing



Year 2-4

Simile snake.

He represents
similes.

Simile

Definition:

A simile is where one item is compared with another.

Example: It usually has

as....as.....

like a.....

Sentence:

The snake was as long as
a classroom ruler.

The snake was like a
hissing fire.

Year 3/4

Metaphor

Metaphors are shown with an apple and a ball because these two objects have the same shape.

Definition:

A metaphor is a figure of speech that describes a subject by saying that it is something else (an unrelated object).

Examples

The ball was a hard round apple sitting on a table.

My tooth is a hard pebble in my mouth.

Year 3/4

This image is a person because personification is related to human qualities.

Personification

Definition:

Personification is when an object is given a human verb or quality.

Example:

The volcano wept hot tears as it erupted.



Personification



Film clips demonstrate
objects 'coming to life'
Eg: Beauty and the Beast



Year 3/4

This is a picture of a bed. The posts of the bed are like the two parts of the sentence either side the clause.

Relative Clause

Relative Clauses begin with...

which... where...

that... whose...

who...

Sentence:

The dog, which was running quickly, had little ears.

The waterfall, that could be heard from afar, was the largest in the land.

Sam, who went to school everyday, got an education.

Key Stage 2

13

Tick one box to show which part of the sentence is a **relative clause**.

The table which is made of oak is now black with age.



1 mark

How to Help

- Practise Spellings and Spelling patterns
- Read with your child and discuss the vocabulary
- Use adult vocabulary with your child and explain what words mean.
- Drop into conversation grammatical aspects e.g. what is the opposite of...
- Correct your child's grammar or improve a sentence which they state.
- Example:
- 'Look at that dog'
- Reply 'yes he is a **ferocious** looking dog.' That means....

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Resources to Help

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SATS Study & Practice Book