



Aberford C of E Primary School – SPAG Progression & Terminology

Punctuation

Term	Definition	Example	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
Full Stop	To be used at the end of a sentence.	Today it is Sunday.						
Capital letter	To be used at the start of a sentence.	This is my house.						
	To be used for proper nouns.	He lives in Leeds.						
	To be used at the start of direct speech.	She said, "We are tired."						
	To be used for the personal pronoun I.	I am 9 years old.						
	To be used in some abbreviations.	SATs = Statutory Assessment Tests						
Question mark	To be used at the end of a question.	Where are you going?						
Exclamation mark	To be used in urgent commands.	Stop!						
	To be used for something surprising or exciting using <i>what</i> or <i>how</i>	What wonderful news! How lovely!						
	To be used to show an interjection.	Wow!						
Comma	To be used in a list. There does not need to be a comma before <i>and</i> .	I can see boats, cars and trains. The brown, spotty, old cat hissed.						
	To be used in direct speech.	"I can see it," she said. He explained, "It is there!"						
	To be used to clarify meaning.	Let's eat mum. Let's eat, mum.						
	To be used after fronted adverbial phrases.	All night long, she danced. As fast as it could, the dog ran.						
	To be used to separate the main clause and a subordinate clause.	Whenever I go shopping, I take my bag.						
	To be used around a relative clause.	Kirsty, who was tired, went to bed.						
Apostrophe	To be used for contraction.	Can't = cannot I'll = I will						
	To be used for possession.	The pupil's bone (singular) The pupils' books (plural)						
Inverted commas (also known as speech marks.)	To be used when someone is speaking or when using a quotation.	The teacher said, "We are going on a trip!" In chapter 4 Harry exclaimed, "Run!"						

Brackets	To be used to show parenthesis (adding in additional information.)	The sky (filled with birds) was the clearest blue.						
Dash	To be used to show parenthesis (adding in additional information.)	Sarah – a ten year old girl – laughed at her brother.						
Hyphen	To be used to join words to show they have combined meaning.	check-in eye-opener						
Colon	To be used to introduce a list	You need to pack: three jumpers, two shirts and a scarf.						
	To be used to link two sentences when the second explains/expands on the first.	She was scared: the shadow was chasing her.						
Semi-colon	To be used to link two sentences where the second is about the same thing.	Ben had 5 oranges; Sarah had 3.						
	To be used to separate items in a list, if the list also contains commas.	The breakfast options were fried eggs, toast and ketchup; sausages and beans; scrambled eggs and toast.						
Ellipses	To be used to show something has been omitted.	The mysterious man finished his business and walked into the shadows...						
	To show missing words in a quotation.	In chapter 4 Harry says, “Let’s go...home.”						
Bullet points	To be used for a list.	Ingredients: • Flour • Sugar • Eggs						

Word Classes

Term	Definition	Example	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
Noun	An object or emotion.	apple, cat, happiness						
Proper noun	Nouns that need a capital letter – person,	Mrs Warner, Aberford C of E Primary School,						

	place, organisation	NASA							
Adjective	A word used to describe a noun	small dog, red sign							
Verb	A doing or a being word. They have tenses.	The boy ran away. She is hungry.							
Adverb	A word used to describe how, when or where a verb happens. They do not have to end in -ly.	The boy ran away quickly. In anger she grumbled.							
Pronoun	A personal pronoun	I, you, he, she, it, we, they, me, him, her, us, and them							
	A possessive pronoun	Mine, yours, his, hers, theirs, ours							
	A relative pronoun used in a relative clause.	who, which, that, whom The girl, who had red hair, sang.							
Determiner	A word that decides something about a noun	Articles - the, a, an (Y3) Numbers – one, two Quantifiers – many, few, some, every, much Demonstratives – this, that, these, those							
Conjunction (Years 5 and 6 to know the difference)	Co-ordinating conjunctions found in the middle of the sentence to join two sentences together.	I want to leave but my mum has asked me to stay. I will buy one apple then I will buy two bananas.							
	Subordinating conjunctions create a subordinate clause.	When I arrive, I will eat. Because I'm late, I'll hurry up. She bought the top, after her mum gave her the money.							
	I SAW A WABUB								
Modal verb	Modal verbs are found in front of the main verb to indicate possibility or certainty.	He should come soon. They might go on holiday.							
Preposition	Words that show time, place or position.	On top of the table was a cup. I'll go after tea. Run towards the sea!							

Verb Tense

Term	Definition	Example	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
Present	Something that is happening now.	I sing.						
Present progressive	Something that is happening now and is on-going.	I am singing.						
Future	Something that will happen in the future.	I will sing.						
Past	Something that has happened.	I sang.						
Past progressive	Something that has happened and was on-going.	I was singing.						
(Past) perfect	Something that has happened and is completely finished.	I had sung.						
Present perfect	Something that happened in the past and might have finished.	I have sung.						

Sentence Functions

Term	Definition	Example	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
Statement	A sentence that states something.	It is Monday today.						
Question	A sentence that asks something. It might start with a question word and will end in a question mark.	How are you?						
Command	A sentence that orders someone to do something. It will start with a bossy (imperative) verb.	Go home.						
Exclamation	A sentence about something surprising or exciting.	It's my birthday tomorrow!						

Spelling and Phonics

Term	Definition	Example	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
Vowel	5 of the 26 letters of the alphabet are vowels	a e i o u						
Consonant	21 of the 26 letters of the alphabet are consonants	b, c, d etc.						
Word family	Words related in form and meaning.	solve, solution, dissolve, insoluble						
Prefix	A group of letter that can be added to the start of a	reorganise						

	word. These letters will change the meaning.							
Suffix	A group of letter that can be added to the end of a word. These letters will change the meaning.	fulfil ment						
Homophone	Words that sound the same but are spelt differently.	there, their, they're where, wear, we're						
Homograph	Words that are spelt the same but are said differently and have different meanings	read and read						
Blend	To combine individual sounds together to sound out a word	the sounds c-a-t blended together make the sound <i>cat</i> .						
Digraph	Two letters which together make a single sound	sh, ch, th						
Trigraph	Three letters which together make a single sound	tch						
Grapheme	A letter or a group of letters representing one speech sound	the <i>f</i> in <i>full</i> , the <i>ph</i> in <i>photo</i> , and the <i>gh</i> in <i>cough</i> are all written representations of the same phoneme						
Phoneme	The individual speech sound in a language that serves to distinguish one word from another.							
Syllable	A unit of sound that is, or makes part of, a word	<i>moth</i> – <i>er</i> has two syllables						

Parts of a Sentence

Term	Definition	Example	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
Word	A group of letters that has a meaning.	d o g = dog						
Sentence	A set of words with a capital letter and an ending piece of punctuation. A sentence must contain a verb and a subject.	She ran away into the forest.						
Phrase	A noun phrase is a group of words containing a noun.	the black dog						
	An expanded noun phrase	the large black dog with sharp teeth						
	An adverbial phrase is a group of words containing an adverb. Fronted adverbials go at the start of the	As slowly as possible In a loud voice						

	sentence.							
	A prepositional phrase is a group of words containing a preposition.	on top of the oven in his hand						
Clause	A main clause is a group of words that form a sentence on their own. It will contain a verb and s subject.	John sat down whilst eating his dinner.						
	A subordinate clause is a group of words (usually started by a conjunction) that does not make sense on its own.	John sat down whilst eating his dinner.						
	A relative clause is a type of subordinate clause (usually introduced by a relative pronoun.)	John, who was ten, sat down whilst eating his dinner.						

Other

Term	Definition	Example	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
Subjunctive	A mood that expresses things that could or should happen. Often uses the word 'were.'	I wish I were able to fly.						
Synonym	A word that has the same meaning as another word.	cold, icy						
Antonym	A word that has the opposite meaning to another word.	hot, cold						
Singular	When there is one of a noun.	cat						
Plural	When there is more than one noun. Usually is formed by adding –s or –es to the noun.	cats						
Cohesion	Techniques used in writing to link sentences or paragraphs together. Cohesion can be created in many ways including by using repetition and conjunctions.	The boy was twelve. This same boy had red hair. She walked away slowly. After this, she turned back.						
Ambiguity	Something that is open to interpretation; it is unclear what the meaning is.	Let's eat grandpa. This could have two meanings.						
Formal language	Formal language is less personal than informal	scared and apprehensive						