Buckingham Primary Academy Grammar Glossary

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Term** | **Definition** | **Guidance** | **Example** |
| Noun *(Noun Clown*) | A noun is the name of a person, place or thing | The surest way to identify nouns is by the ways they can be used after determiners such as the: for  example, most nouns will fit into the frame “The \_\_\_\_\_\_ “ | My big brother did an amazing jump on his skateboard.  Actions speak louder than words. |
| Adjective *(Agent Adjective)* | An adjective is a word which describes a noun | The surest way to identify adjectives is by the ways they can be used:   * before a noun, to make the noun’s meaning more   specific (i.e. to modify the noun)   * after the verb be, as its complement. | The pupils did some really good work. [adjective used before a noun, to modify it]    Their work was good. [adjective used after the verb be, as its complement] |
| Verb *(Verb Bird)* | A verb is a doing or being word | The surest way to identify verbs is by the ways they can be used: they can usually have a tense, either past, present or future.    Verbs are sometimes called ‘doing words’ because many verbs name an action that someone or something does. They are also ‘being’ words.  For example: He is seven. | He lives in Birmingham. [present tense]    The teacher wrote a song for the class. [past tense]    He is seven years old. |
| Adverb  *(Abbie Adverb)* | An adverb is a word which describes a verb (when, where or how) | The surest way to identify adverbs is by the ways they can be used: they usually modify the verb but can also modify an adjective, another adverb or even a whole clause | Usha soon started snoring loudly.  [adverbs modifying the verbs started and snoring] That match was really exciting!  [adverb modifying the adjective exciting]    We don’t get to play games very often. [adverb modifying the other adverb, often]    Fortunately, it didn’t rain. [adverb modifying the whole clause ‘it didn’t rain’ by commenting on it] |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Preposition *(Preston Preposition)* | A word to describe where something is in place or time | A preposition links a following noun, pronoun or noun phrase to some other word in the sentence.  Prepositions often describe locations or directions, but can describe other things, such as relations of time.  Words like before or since can act either as prepositions or as conjunctions. | Tom waved goodbye to Christy.    The cat sat on the chair.    She’ll be back from Australia in two weeks.    I haven’t seen my dog since this morning. |
| Determiner *(The Determiners)* | A determiner is a word that is used with a noun to clarify it | A determiner specifies a noun as known or unknown, and it goes  before any modifiers (e.g. adjectives or other nouns).   * Some examples of   determiners are: articles  (the, a or an)   * demonstratives (e.g. this, those) * possessives (e.g. my, your) * quantifiers (e.g. some, every). | the home team [article, specifies the team as known]    a good team [article, specifies the team as unknown]    that pupil [demonstrative, known]    Julia’s parents [possessive, known]    some big boys [quantifier  unknown] |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Conjunction | A conjunction is a joining word in a sentence | Conjunctions join words or clauses together    Co-ordinating conjunctions join words or clauses as an equal pair.  (FANBOYS – for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so)    Sub-ordinating conjunctions join a sub-ordinate clause to a main clause | Sam ate fish **and** chips. [links the words bat and ball as an equal pair]    Sarah is a novice **but** she is already very good.. [links two clauses as an equal pair]    Everyone clapped **when** Hannah won the race.. [introduces a subordinate  clause] |
| Clause | A clause is a group of words which contain a subject and a verb | Clauses can sometimes be complete sentences. Clauses may be main or  subordinate. Sub-ordinate clauses need a main clause to form a  complete sentence. Main clauses can be sentences on their own. | I walk. (One clause)  The bus drove down the street. (One clause)  When I arrived at school, I went straight inside. (Two clauses) |
| Main Clause *(Mr Main Clause)* | A main clause is a clause which makes sense on its own | A main clause contains a subject and a verb and can form a sentence on its own. | It was raining but the sun was shining. [two main clauses]    When it rains, I get wet. [subordinate clause and main clause] |
| Subordinate Clause *(Suba the Subordinate Clause)* | A subordinate clause supports the main clause and contains a subordinating conjunction | A subordinate clause contains a subject and a verb but doesn’t make sense on its own. It needs a main clause to form a sentence. | That’s the street where Ben lives.    He watched her as she disappeared. |
| Phrase | A group of words which form part of a sentence but don’t contain a  subject/verb pair | Phrases do not make sense on their own. They form part of a sentence  but don’t contain a subject and a  verb | She waved to her mother. [a noun phrase, with the noun mother as its head]  She waved to her mother. [a preposition phrase, with the preposition to as its head] |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Noun Phrase | A group of words that stand for the noun | A noun phrase is a phrase with a noun as its head, e.g. some dogs, dogs with short hair    Noun phrases can be expanded with prepositional phrases    Expanded noun phrases can take the form of determiner+ adjective(s) + noun + prepositional phrase | the bus        the red bus    the red bus with a loud engine |
| Prepositional Phrase | A group of words (that start with a preposition) which describe where something is in place or time. | A preposition phrase has a preposition as its head followed by a noun, pronoun or noun phrase.    Preposition+ Noun  Preposition+ Pronoun  Preposition+ Noun Phrase    ‘A puppy can run’ should be able to precede a prepositional phrase to check that it is grammatically correct. | A puppy can run across fields.  [Preposition+ Noun]    A puppy can run under it.  [Preposition+ pronoun]    A puppy can run under the table. [Preposition+ Noun phrase] |
| Adverbial | A word or phrase that describes the verb (when, where or how) | A word or phrase that modifies a verb. | The bus leaves in five minutes.  [preposition phrase as adverbial: modifies leaves]    She promised to see him last night.  [noun phrase modifying either promised or see, according to the  intended meaning] |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Subject | A subject is the word or words which shows who or what is doing the verb in the sentence    The subject is the actor of the sentence | The subject of a verb is normally the noun, noun phrase or pronoun that names the ‘do-er’ or ‘be-er’. The subject’s normal position is:   * just before the verb in a statement * just after the auxiliary verb, in a question. | Rula’s mother went out.    That is uncertain.    The children will study the animals.    Will the children study the animals? |
| Object | The object is the word or words which is having the verb done to it | An object is normally a noun, pronoun or noun phrase that comes straight after the verb, and shows what the verb is acting upon. | Year 2 designed puppets. [noun acting as object]    I like that. [pronoun acting as object] |
| Pronoun | A word which is used to replace a noun | Pronouns are used to replace a noun in a sentence or clause, and help to avoid having to repeat words. | Sarah is my sister. **She** is seven years old. |
| Possessive Pronoun | A pronoun showing possession | A pronoun indicating possession eg theirs, mine, his, hers, yours | That pencil is **mine**. This one is **yours**. |
| Relative Pronoun | A relative pronoun is used to connect a clause or phrase to a noun or pronoun. | The most common are: who, whom, which, whoever, whomever,  whichever, and that. The relative pronoun refers back to the noun it id  relative | That’s the boy **who** lives near school. [who refers back to boy] |
| Relative Clause | A clause which relates to the noun and includes a relative pronoun | A relative clause a special type of subordinate clause that relates to a noun. It often does this by using a relative pronoun such as who or that to refer back to the noun or entire clause containing the noun. | That’s the boy who lives near school.  [who refers back to boy] The prize that I won was a book. [that refers back to prize]  The prize I won was a book. [the pronoun that is omitted]  Tom broke the game, which annoyed Ali. [which refers back to the whole clause] |
| Modal Verb | Verbs used to show possibility or certainty | The main modal verbs are will, would, can, could, may, might, shall, should, must and ought. | I **will** go out with my friends.  I **might** do my homework later.  I **should** do my homework. |