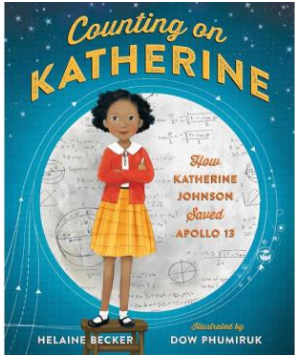




# English Writing Year 4 Autumn 1



| Y3/4 Word List |             | Developing Vocabulary |             |
|----------------|-------------|-----------------------|-------------|
| believe        | interest    | grave                 | agency      |
| century        | knowledge   | peril                 | spaceship   |
| consider       | learn       | astronaut             | destination |
| different      | popular     | mission               | energy      |
| difficult      | possible    | project               | design      |
| earth          | question    | explosion             | orbit       |
| eight          | remember    | feat                  | flight path |
| famous         | separate    | celebrate             | fuel        |
| favourite      | special     | research              | slingshot   |
| history        | strength    | mathematician         | gravity     |
| important      | woman/women | universe              |             |

I am learning to write a fact file about Katherine Johnson, including short biography.

Greater Depth: Include quotes from people who knew her in the fact file which show her character

Information Texts:

- Use specific vocabulary e.g. NASA, and some technical vocabulary e.g. mathematician, calculations
- Use description to compare and contrast e.g. Johnson is one of the greatest unsung heroes of the 21<sup>st</sup> century
- Write with clear and precise description
- Use layout features e.g. questions to draw in the reader, headings and sub-headings, paragraphs to group related ideas, diagrams

Recount:

- Engage the reader through detailed description
- Include eye witness accounts as quotes using direct speech punctuation
- Write an introductory paragraph including the 5Ws – who, what, where, when, why and how.

Non Negotiables in Year 4 Writing Autumn 1

- Capital letters for **the start of every sentence** and **proper nouns**
- The correct punctuation mark at **the end of every sentence** . ? !
- **Commas** to separate items in a list
- **Apostrophes** for contracted forms e.g. **don't**
- **Apostrophe** for singular possession e.g. **the dog's tail**
- Use a wide range of **conjunctions** e.g. **when, before, after, while, so, because.**
- Correct letter formation
- All Year 1/2/3 HFW spelt correctly

## TIMELINE OF THE OLYMPIC GAMES



## USAIN BOLT

**WHAT WAS HIS LIFE LIKE AS A CHILD?**

Before he was famous, Bolt lived in the small town of Sherwood Content on the island of Jamaica. Usain's family were not wealthy and he helped his parents run their grocery shop. He loved to play cricket and football but his coach noticed how fast he was. By the age of twelve, he was the fastest 100 metre runner in his school. In 2002, Bolt represented Jamaica and won the 200 metres. This made him the youngest world-junior gold medalist ever. Amusingly, he claims he was so nervous that he put his shoes on the wrong feet but thankfully he realised before the race began.

**WHY IS USAIN BOLT FAMOUS?**

Usain St Leo Bolt is a Jamaican sprinter and the fastest human alive. Many people believe he is the greatest sprinter in history. Incredibly, he is the world-record holder in the 100 metres, 200 metres and 100 metres relay. He has won eight Olympic gold medals at three consecutive Olympics (2008, 2012, 2016) and has earned the nickname 'Lightning Bolt'. Because this legend is a true showman, he is incredibly popular. At athletics events, he dances around the track, poses for the cameras and takes selfies with the crowd. He always looks like he's having a great time and his sense of fun certainly gets the crowd cheering!

**HOW HAS HE OVERCOME DIFFICULTIES IN HIS LIFE?**

Unlike other record holders, this superstar does not look like a typical sprinter. Because he is far taller and heavier than his competitors, many believed his size would hold him back. He grew up in a rural town with little electricity or running water and got his exercise by running around the neighbourhood with his siblings. When he was a child, doctors told him he had scoliosis. This meant his spine curved in places it shouldn't have done so this should have been the end of his running career. During his life, it has caused him repeated injuries and led to many setbacks. His coach has helped him to strengthen his core and with a lot of hard work this incredible athlete has succeeded in beating the condition.

**MY QUESTION**  
WHEN DID YOU REALISE HOW GOOD YOU ARE?

"Worrying gets you nowhere. If you turn up worrying about how you're going to perform, you've already lost. Train hard, turn up, run your best and the rest will take care of itself."

**HOW HAS HE INSPIRED OTHERS?**

In his lifetime, this incredible athlete has achieved more than any other sprinter but he has also charmed the world. He has shown respect for those who came before him but takes pride in his own achievements too. The crowd love him because he loves them right back. His laps of honour are endless therefore everyone can enjoy his success with him. Bolt seems to have time for people and he has spoken out about the importance of manners. Since he can be this successful and rich and still be a nice person there is no wonder we all love the 'Lightning Bolt'.

**Did you know?**

- Interestingly, he is 1.95m tall so is taller than most sprinters.
- He once broke a 100m record with his shoe untied!
- Before his gold medal win at the 2008 games, he claims to have eaten McDonald's chicken nuggets.

## **Grammar and Punctuation Knowledge**

### Expand noun phrases by the addition of modifying adjectives, nouns and prepositional phrases

A noun phrase is a noun with a word added before the noun. These words are called determiners.

noun: man

noun phrase: the man / a man / this man etc

We can expand noun phrases by adding more information before or after the noun. These could be adjectives, modifying nouns or a prepositional phrase.

### **How do we expand a noun phrase?**

In the examples below, the **noun** phrase the man has been expanded.

the old **man** (an adjective has been added)

the giant **man** (a modifying noun has been added)

the **man** with the walking stick (a prepositional phrase has been added)

These are called expanded noun phrases.

### Use Fronted adverbials

Adverbials are words or phrases that give more information to the sentence.

"I discovered fronted adverbials **earlier today**."

**'Earlier today'** is the adverbial.

Fronted adverbials

A fronted adverbial is when the adverbial word or phrase is moved to the front of the sentence, before the verb.

"**Earlier today**, I discovered fronted adverbials."

So here, **'earlier today'** is a fronted adverbial.

### Use commas after fronted adverbials

A comma is normally used after an adverbial.

### Use paragraphs to organise information and ideas around a theme

A paragraph is a series of sentences that are organised and coherent, and all related to a single topic.

### Choose nouns or pronouns appropriately for clarity and cohesion and to avoid repetition

#### **What is a noun?**

Nouns are words that name people, places, objects, thoughts, ideas and feelings.

The **sun** is high in the **sky**.

The words '**sun**' and '**sky**' are both **nouns**

#### **What are the types of noun?**

Nouns can be proper, common, concrete, abstract or collective.

##### Proper nouns

These name a specific person, place or organisation. They always begin with a capital letter.

**George visited the Lego Store in London.**

##### Common nouns

These are generic names for people, places or organisations.

Common nouns can also be concrete or abstract.

**A boy visited the shop in the town.**

##### Concrete nouns

These name something that can be physically seen, touched, heard, smelt or tasted.

**The baby lay in the cot.**

##### Collective nouns

These name a group of people, animals or objects.

**The class watched a swarm of bees in the playground.**

### Abstract nouns

These name things that cannot be observed using the five senses. Abstract nouns are ideas, feelings or a state of being such as beauty or suffering.

He had a dream while he slept.

### **What is a pronoun?**

Pronouns are words that can be used in a sentence to replace a noun or noun phrase. Examples of pronouns include I, me, my, we, they, yours and ours.

### What are the types of pronoun?

There are different types of pronouns that pupils in Key Stage 2 will become familiar with in Year 4.

### Personal pronouns

Personal pronouns are used when referring to people or things already known. Personal pronouns are: I, me, you, he, she, it, we, us, they or them.

Different pronouns are used when writing in the first, second or third person and can be singular or plural.

I have a new toy. It is the same one that you have.

### Possessive pronouns

Possessive pronouns indicate who owns the thing or things in the sentence. Possessive pronouns are: mine, yours, his, hers, its, ours or theirs.

The toy is his.

**Take care!** The words his, her, your, its, our and their can also be used as possessive determiners which show who owns something. My is also a possessive determiner.

### It is his toy.

In the sentence above, 'his' is used as a **possessive determiner** before a noun. Care must be taken to decide if these words are used as pronouns or determiners. To check, pronouns replace a noun, whereas determiners are used with a noun to create a noun phrase.

### **What does 'clarify' mean?**

To clarify means to make something less confusing and more understandable. Related words are clarifying, clarified and clarification.

### **What does 'cohesion' mean?**

Cohesion refers to how a writer links different parts of a text together. This could be through the use of pronouns, adverbials, conjunctions or prepositions. This resource pack focuses on how pronouns can create cohesion by linking back to nouns that are known.

### **Recap: Use inverted commas for direct speech**

When you are writing, **inverted commas** go before and after direct speech, surrounding what was said.

"I'm hungry," she complained.

If another character replies, use another set of inverted commas.

"What's for tea?" she asked. "Delicious ants!" her mum replied.

Punctuation, such as question marks, full stops and exclamation marks go inside the speech marks

### Letter Formation

The ladder family li Ll Uu Tt Yy and Jj. You will learn to join these.

