



Grammar Curriculum

Years 1 - 6

| Year | Word structure | Sentence structure | Text structure | Punctuation | Terminology for pupils |
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| 1 | <p>Regular plural noun suffixes –s or –es (e.g. <i>dog, dogs; wish, wishes</i>)</p> <p>Suffixes that can be added to verbs (e.g. <i>helping, helped, helper</i>)</p> <p>How the prefix un– changes the meaning of verbs and adjectives (negation, e.g. <i>unkind</i>, or undoing, e.g. <i>untie the boat</i>)</p> | <p>How words can combine to make sentences</p> <p>Joining words and joining sentences using <i>and</i></p> | <p>Sequencing sentences to form short narratives</p> | <p>Separation of words with spaces</p> <p>Introduction to capital letters, full stops, question marks and exclamation marks to demarcate sentences</p> <p>Capital letters for names and for the personal pronoun I</p> | <p>word, sentence, letter, capital letter, full stop, punctuation, singular, plural, question mark, exclamation mark</p> |
| 2 | <p>Formation of nouns using suffixes such as –ness, –er</p> <p>Formation of adjectives using suffixes such as –ful, –less (A fuller list of suffixes can be found in the Year 2 spelling appendix.)</p> <p>Use of the suffixes –er and –est to form comparisons of adjectives and adverbs</p> | <p>Subordination (using <i>when, if, that, or because</i>) and co-ordination (using <i>or, and, or but</i>)</p> <p>Expanded noun phrases for description and specification (e.g. <i>the blue butterfly, plain flour, the man in the moon</i>)</p> <p>Sentences with different forms: statement, question, exclamation, command</p> | <p>Correct choice and consistent use of present tense and past tense throughout writing</p> <p>Use of the continuous form of verbs in the present and past tense to mark actions in progress (e.g. <i>she is drumming, he was shouting</i>)</p> | <p>Use of capital letters, full stops, question marks and exclamation marks to demarcate sentences</p> <p>Commas to separate items in a list</p> <p>Apostrophes to mark contracted forms in spelling</p> | <p>verb, tense (past, present), adjective, noun, suffix, apostrophe, comma</p> |
| 3 | <p>Formation of nouns using a range of prefixes, such as <i>super–, anti–, auto–</i></p> <p>Use of the determiners a or an according to whether the next word begins with a consonant or a vowel (e.g. <i>a rock, an open box</i>)</p> <p>Word families based on common words</p> | <p>Expressing time and cause using conjunctions (e.g. <i>when, so, before, after, while, because</i>), adverbs (e.g. <i>then, next, soon, therefore</i>, or prepositions (e.g. <i>before, after, during, in, because of</i>)</p> | <p>Introduction to paragraphs as a way to group related material</p> <p>Headings and sub-headings to aid presentation</p> <p>Use of the perfect form of verbs to mark relationships of time and cause (e.g. <i>I have written it down so we can check what he said.</i>)</p> | <p>Introduction to inverted commas to punctuate direct speech</p> | <p>word family, conjunction, adverb, preposition, direct speech, inverted commas (or “speech marks”), prefix, consonant, vowel, consonant letter, vowel letter, clause, subordinate clause</p> |

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| 4 | <p>The grammatical difference between plural and possessive -s</p> <p>Standard English forms for verb inflections instead of local spoken forms (e.g. <i>we were</i> instead of <i>we was</i>, or <i>I did</i> instead of <i>I done</i>)</p> | <p>Appropriate choice of pronoun or noun within a sentence to avoid ambiguity and repetition</p> <p>Fronted adverbials (e.g. <i>Later that day, I heard the bad news.</i>)</p> | <p>Use of paragraphs to organise ideas around a theme</p> <p>Appropriate choice of pronoun or noun across sentences to aid cohesion and avoid repetition</p> | <p>Use of inverted commas to punctuate direct speech</p> <p>Apostrophes to mark singular and plural possession (e.g. <i>the girl's name, the boys' boots</i>)</p> <p>Use of commas after fronted adverbials</p> | <p>pronoun, possessive pronoun, adverbial</p> |
| 5 | <p>Converting nouns or adjectives into verbs using suffixes (e.g. <i>-ate; -ise; -ify</i>)</p> <p>Verb prefixes (e.g. <i>dis-, de-, mis-, over- and re-</i>)</p> | <p>Relative clauses beginning with <i>who, which, where, why, whose, that</i>, or an omitted relative pronoun</p> <p>Indicating degrees of possibility using modal verbs (e.g. <i>might, should, will, must</i>) or adverbs (e.g. <i>perhaps, surely</i>)</p> | <p>Devices to build cohesion within a paragraph (e.g. <i>then, after that, this, firstly</i>)</p> <p>Linking ideas across paragraphs using adverbials of time (e.g. <i>later</i>), place (e.g. <i>nearby</i>) and number (e.g. <i>secondly</i>)</p> | <p>Brackets, dashes or commas to indicate parenthesis</p> <p>Use of commas to clarify meaning or avoid ambiguity</p> | <p>relative clause, modal verb, relative pronoun, parenthesis, bracket, dash, determiner, cohesion, ambiguity</p> |

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| 6 | <p>The difference between vocabulary typical of informal speech and vocabulary appropriate for formal speech and writing (e.g. <i>said</i> versus <i>reported</i>, <i>alleged</i>, or <i>claimed</i> in formal speech or writing)</p> | <p>Use of the passive voice to affect the presentation of information in a sentence (e.g. <i>I broke the window in the greenhouse</i> versus <i>The window in the greenhouse was broken</i>)</p> <p>Expanded noun phrases to convey complicated information concisely (e.g. <u><i>the boy that jumped over the fence is over there</i></u>, or <u><i>the fact that it was raining meant the end of sports day</i></u>)</p> <p>The difference between structures typical of informal speech and structures appropriate for formal speech and writing (such as the use of question tags, e.g. <i>He's your friend, isn't he?</i>, or the use of the subjunctive in some very formal writing and speech)</p> | <p>Linking ideas across paragraphs using a wider range of cohesive devices: semantic cohesion (e.g. repetition of a word or phrase), grammatical connections (e.g. the use of adverbials such as <i>on the other hand</i>, <i>in contrast</i>, or <i>as a consequence</i>), and ellipsis</p> <p>Layout devices, such as headings, sub-headings, columns, bullets, or tables, to structure text</p> | <p>Use of the semi-colon, colon and dash to mark the boundary between independent clauses (e.g. <i>It's raining; I'm fed up.</i>)</p> <p>Use of the colon to introduce a list</p> <p>Punctuation of bullet points to list information</p> <p>How hyphens can be used to avoid ambiguity (e.g. <i>man eating shark</i> versus <i>man-eating shark</i>, or <i>recover</i> versus <i>re-cover</i>)</p> | <p>active and passive voice, subject and object, hyphen, colon, semi-colon, bullet points, synonym and antonym</p> |
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