

Year 3 and 4

Grammar Terminology

Determiner

These are words which specify which noun we mean. They come before any adjectives or other describing phrases.

A, an and **the** are common determiners known as articles.

Adverb

A word that describes or modifies a verb, adjective or other adverb. Adverbs are also used to modify a whole sentence.

Unfortunately, she spoke so **slowly** that most of the audience was **very** bored.

Fronted adverbials

These are words or phrases at the beginning of the sentence used to describe the action that follows.

E.g. **Suddenly**, the door slammed.

Under the clock, he stood and waited.

Subordinate Clause

A subordinate clause adds to another clause. It can't be a sentence by itself.

When I first heard the song, I knew it would be a hit.

When I grow up, I want to be a pilot.

Noun/ Noun Phrase

A noun is word that names a person, place, thing or condition.

Tree, Mrs Kendal, lake, London, anger
An noun phrase includes a noun and the modifiers which distinguish it.

E.g. dog-> that dog, the dog, the dog on the sofa, Aunt Mable's dog.

A noun phrase can be **expanded** with an adjective e.g. the lazy dog, a playful dog

Prepositions

A preposition links a noun or noun phrase to another word. They often mark direction or locations, but can also make time links.

- Please put your pens **in** the tub.
- We went **to** Egypt on holiday.
- I haven't seen her **since**.

Conjunctions

A conjunction links two clauses together in a sentence.

Co-ordinating

A conjunction which joins two equal clauses e.g. FANBOYS (for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so)

Subordinating

A conjunction which starts a subordinate clause e.g. while, until, if, because

Speech

Direct speech is the words which actually come out of someone's mouth.

Inverted commas go around the speaker's words.

"Hurry up!" shouted Mum. "I need to get to the bakery before it closes."

Tense

The aspect of verbs that shows when an action takes place. Verbs can be in past, present or future tense: e.g. played (past) playing (present) and will play (future).

Apostrophe

An apostrophe is used to show where one or more letters or numbers have been left out. E.g. wouldn't = would not; '87- 1987.

An apostrophe is also used to show possession. E.g. Susan's clothes.

Pronoun

A pronoun takes the place of a noun which is already known, perhaps from a previous sentences.

E.g. James walked to the shop to buy some milk. **He** needed **it** to make some pancakes.