# **Grammar Terminology**

# Subjunctive Form

The subjunctive is a verb form or mood used to express things that could or should happen. It is used to express wishes, hopes, commands, demands or suggestions. E.g. If I were you, I'd get the washing up done.

#### Hyphens

A hyphen links words or parts of words. They give clarity to words with some awkward letter combinations, e.g. co-operate or re-sign. They show where two words link to create a new word or informal phrase e.g. hot-pink, well-to-do.

## Subject and Object

The subject is the person, noun phrase, pronoun or thing which does the verb in a clause.

<u>Wednesday</u> is my favourite day. The <u>dog</u> dropped his toy into the hole. Are <u>you</u> coming to the sleepover?

The object is the person, noun phrase, pronoun or thing which usually comes directly after the verb

## Synonym and Antonym

A synonym is a word or phrase with the same or similar meaning to another. E.g. crouch/squat.

Antonyms are words with opposite meanings e.g. old/young

#### Modal verbs

Modal verbs add meaning to the main verb. Modal verbs only have a single form, so you don't add –ing or –s to them. Some common modal verbs are: Will, shall, should, can, could, must.

#### Relative pronoun/ Relative clause

Relative pronouns (who, which, where, that, when) introduce a relative clause. They refer back to a noun or clause that we already know.

A relative clause is a special type of subordinate clause which adds extra information to another noun or clause.

### **Active and Passive Voice**

When a sentence is in the active voice, the pattern is subject– verb– object. The subject of the verb is more important.

When a sentence is in the passive voice, the pattern is usually object– verb- (subject). The object of the verb is more important.

#### Parenthesis

We use parenthesis to add extra information to a sentence which is already grammatically correct without it. We can use brackets, dashes or commas to separate the extra information from the main sentences. E.g. Jack, who has a sister called Jill, went to fetch some water.

#### Semi-colons, colons and Dashes

Semicolons are used to create **a break in a sentence**, with a pause halfway between a comma and a full stop. I just had a big meal; however I am still hungry!

Colons are used at **the end of a clause** to show that an answer, elaboration or explanation follows. The night was grim: it was cold and rainy.

A dash creates a break in a sentence. It can show a sharp break between two main clauses. E.g. I went to the house and knocked on the door– what was I thinking?

#### Ellipses

An ellipses is used to show an omission of a word or words from a text.