Writing – vocabulary, grammar and punctuation

Year 1 **Notes and guidance (non-statutory) Statutory requirements** Pupils should be taught to: Pupils should be taught to: develop their understanding of the concepts set out in English Appendix 2 by: • recognise sentence boundaries in spoken sentences leaving spaces between words • Use the vocabulary listed in English Appendix 2 joining words ('Terminology for pupils') when their writing is joining clauses discussed. beginning to punctuate sentences using a capital letter and a full stop, question mark or exclamation mark using a capital letter for names of people, places, the days of the week, and the personal pronoun 'I' Pupils should begin to use some of the distinctive features **English Appendix 2** of Standard English in their writing. 'Standard English' is use the grammatical terminology when their writing. defined in the Glossary.

English Appendix 2

Year 1: Detail of content to be introduced (statutory requirement)

	Word	Regular plural noun suffixes –s or –es [for example, dog, dogs; wish, wishes], including the effects of these suffixes on the meaning of the noun.
		Suffixes that can be added to verbs where no change is needed in the spelling of root words (e.g. helping, helped, helper).
		How the prefix un—changes the meaning of verbs and adjectives [negation, for example, unkind, or undoing: untie the boat].
	Sentence	How words can combine to make sentences.
English Appendix 2		Joining words and joining clauses using and.
	Text	Sequencing sentences to form short narratives.
	Punctuation	Separation of words with spaces.
		Introduction to capital letters, full stops, question marks and exclamation marks to demarcate sentences.
		Capital letters for names and for the personal pronoun <i>I</i> .
	Terminology for	letter, capital letter



pupils	word, singular, plural
	sentence
	punctuation, full stop, question mark, exclamation mark

Year 2

Statut	tory requirements	Notes and guidance (non-statutory)
Pupils s	should be taught to:	The terms for discussing language should be embedded for
develo	o their understanding of the concepts set out in English Appendix 2 by:	pupils in the course of discussing their writing with them. Their attention should be drawn to the technical terms they need to learn.
learnin	g how to use both familiar and new punctuation correctly (see English Appendix 2), including full stops, capital	
letters,	exclamation marks, question marks, commas for lists and apostrophes for contracted forms and the possessive	
(singula	ar).	
Learn h	now to use:	
0	sentences with different forms: statement, question, exclamation, command	
0	expanded noun phrases to describe and specify [for example, the blue butterfly]	
0	the present and past tenses correctly and consistently including the progressive form	
0	subordination (using when, if, that, or because) and co-ordination (using or, and, or but)	
0	the grammar for Year 2 in English Appendix 2	
0	some features of written Standard English	
0	use and understand the grammatical terminology in English Appendix 2 in discussing their writing.	

English Appendix 2

Year 2: Detail of content to be introduced (statutory requirement)

.×	Word	Formation of nouns using suffixes such as <i>ness</i> , <i>ner</i> and by compounding [for example, whiteboard, superman].
endix		Formation of adjectives using suffixes such as -ful, -less.
Арр		(A fuller list of suffixes can be found on page Error! Bookmark not defined. in the Year 2 spelling section in English Appendix 1.)
English 2		Use of the suffixes – <i>er</i> , – <i>est</i> in adjectives and the use of –ly in Standard English to turn adjectives into adverbs .
	Sentence	Subordination (using when, if, that, because) and co-ordination (using or, and, but).



	Expanded noun phrases for description and specification [for example, the blue butterfly, plain flour, the man in the moon].
	How the grammatical patterns in a sentence indicate its function as a statement, question, exclamation or command.
Text	Correct choice and consistent use of present tense and past tense throughout writing.
	Use of the progressive form of verbs in the present and past tense to mark actions in progress [for example, she is drumming, he was shouting].
Punctuation	Use of capital letters, full stops, question marks and exclamation marks to demarcate sentences.
	Commas to separate items in a list.
	Apostrophes to mark where letters are missing in spelling and to mark singular possession in nouns [for example, the girl's name].
Terminology for	noun, noun phrase
pupils	statement, question, exclamation, command
	compound, suffix
	adjective, adverb, verb
	tense (past, present)
	apostrophe, comma

Years 3 and 4				
Statutory requirements	Notes and guidance (non-statutory)			
Pupils should be taught to: develop their understanding of the concepts set out in English Appendix 2 by: extending the range of sentences with more than one clause by using a wider range of conjunctions, including when, if, because, although using the present perfect form of verbs in contrast to the past tense choosing nouns or pronouns appropriately for clarity and cohesion and to avoid repetition using conjunctions, adverbs and prepositions to express time and cause using fronted adverbials learning the grammar for Year 3 and Year 4 in English Appendix 2. Indicate grammatical and other features by:	Grammar should be taught explicitly: pupils should be taught the terminology and concepts set out in English Appendix 2, and be able to apply them correctly to examples of real language, such as their own writing or books that they have read. At this stage, pupils should start to learn about some of the differences between Standard English and non-Standard English and begin to apply what they have learnt [for example, in writing dialogue for characters].			
 using commas after fronted adverbials indicating possession by using the possessive apostrophe with plural nouns using and punctuating direct speech 				



 use and understand the grammatical terminology in English Appendix 2 accurately and appropriately when discussing their writing and reading.

English Appendix 2

Year 3: Detail of content to be introduced (statutory requirement)

	Word	Formation of nouns using a range of prefixes [for example <i>super</i> –, <i>anti</i> –, <i>auto</i> –].
		Use of the forms <i>a</i> or <i>an</i> according to whether the next word begins with a consonant or a vowel [for example, <u>a</u> rock, <u>an</u> open box].
		Word families based on common words, showing how words are related in form and meaning [for example, solve, solution, solver, dissolve, insoluble].
	Sentence	Expressing time, place and cause using conjunctions [for example, when, before, after, while, so, because], adverbs [for example, then, next, soon, therefore], or prepositions [for example, before, after, during, in, because of].
ix 2	Text	Introduction to paragraphs as a way to group related material.
puə		Headings and sub-headings to aid presentation.
Appendix		Use of the present perfect form of verbs instead of the simple past [for example, He has gone out to play contrasted with He went out to play].
English ,	Punctuation	Introduction to inverted commas to punctuate direct speech.
	Terminology for	preposition conjunction
	pupils	word family, prefix
		clause, subordinate clause
		direct speech
		consonant, consonant letter vowel, vowel letter
		inverted commas (or 'speech marks')

English Appendix 2

Year 4: Detail of content to be introduced (statutory requirement)

	Word	The grammatical difference between plural and possessive –s.
dix 2		Standard English forms for verb inflections instead of local spoken forms [for example, we were instead of we was, or I did instead of I done].
Appenc	Sentence	Noun phrases expanded by the addition of modifying adjectives, nouns and preposition phrases (e.g. the teacher expanded to: the strict maths teacher with curly hair).
lish		Fronted adverbials [for example, Later that day, I heard the bad news.].
Engl	Text	Use of paragraphs to organise ideas around a theme.
		Appropriate choice of pronoun or noun within and across sentences to aid cohesion and avoid repetition.
	Punctuation	Use of inverted commas and other punctuation to indicate direct speech [for example, a comma after the reporting clause; end punctuation within



	inverted commas: The conductor shouted, "Sit down!"].
	Apostrophes to mark plural possession [for example, the girl's name, the girls' names].
	Use of commas after fronted adverbials.
Terminology for	determiner
pupils	pronoun, possessive pronoun
	adverbial

Pupils should be taught to: develop their understanding of the concepts set out in English Appendix 2 by: recognising vocabulary and structures that are appropriate for formal speech and writing, including subjunctive forms using passive verbs to affect the presentation of information in a sentence using expanded noun phrases to convey complicated information concisely using modal verbs or adverbs to indicate degrees of possibility using relative clauses beginning with who, which, where, when, whose, that or with an implied (i.e. omitted) relative pronoun learning the grammar for Year 5 and Year 6 in English Appendix 2. Indicate grammatical and other features by: using commas to clarify meaning or avoid ambiguity in writing using hyphens to avoid ambiguity in writing using semi-colons, colons or dashes to mark boundaries between independent clauses using a colon to introduce a list punctuating bullet points consistently use and understand the grammatical terminology in English Appendix 2 accurately and appropriately in discussing their writing and reading. English Appendix 2	Statutory requirements		Notes and guidance (non-statutory)
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	o recognising vocabulary a forms o using passive verbs to a using the perfect form o using expanded noun plousing modal verbs or ad using relative clauses be relative pronoun learning the grammar forms using commas to clarify using brackets, dashes o using semi-colons, color using a colon to introdu punctuating bullet point use and understand the	fect the presentation of information in a sentence f verbs to mark relationships of time and cause trases to convey complicated information concisely verbs to indicate degrees of possibility ginning with who, which, where, when, whose, that or with an implied (i.e. omitted) or Year 5 and Year 6 in English Appendix 2. The eatures by: meaning or avoid ambiguity in writing simbiguity or commas to indicate parenthesis is or dashes to mark boundaries between independent clauses the a list is consistently grammatical terminology in English Appendix 2 accurately and appropriately in discussing	Pupils should continue to add to their knowledge of linguistic terms, including those to describe grammar, so



	Verb prefixes [for example, dis-, de-, mis-, over- and re-].
Sentence	Relative clauses beginning with who, which, where, when, whose, that, or an omitted relative pronoun.
	Indicating degrees of possibility using adverbs [for example, perhaps, surely] or modal verbs [for example, might, should, will, must].
Text	Devices to build cohesion within a paragraph [for example, then, after that, this, firstly].
	Linking ideas across paragraphs using adverbials of time [for example, <i>later</i>], place [for example, <i>nearby</i>] and number [for example, <i>secondly</i>] or tense choices [for example, he <i>had</i> seen her before].
Punctuation	Brackets, dashes or commas to indicate parenthesis.
	Use of commas to clarify meaning or avoid ambiguity.
Terminology for	modal verb, relative pronoun
pupils	relative clause
	parenthesis, bracket, dash
	cohesion, ambiguity

English Appendix 2

Year 6: Detail of content to be introduced (statutory requirement)

English Appendix 2	Word	The difference between vocabulary typical of informal speech and vocabulary appropriate for formal speech and writing [for example, find out – discover; ask for – request; go in – enter].
		How words are related by meaning as synonyms and antonyms [for example, big, large, little].
	Sentence	Use of the passive to affect the presentation of information in a sentence [for example, <i>I broke the window in the greenhouse</i> versus <i>The window in the greenhouse was broken (by me)</i>].
		The difference between structures typical of informal speech and structures appropriate for formal speech and writing [for example, the use of question tags: <i>He's your friend, isn't he?</i> , or the use of subjunctive forms such as <i>If I were</i> or <i>Were they</i> to come in some very formal writing and speech].
	Text	Linking ideas across paragraphs using a wider range of cohesive devices : repetition of a word or phrase, grammatical connections [for example, the use of adverbials such as <i>on the other hand, in contrast,</i> or <i>as a consequence</i>], and ellipsis.
		Layout devices [for example, headings, sub-headings, columns, bullets, or tables, to structure text].
	Punctuation	Use of the semi-colon, colon and dash to mark the boundary between independent clauses [for example, It's raining; I'm fed up].
		Use of the colon to introduce a list and use of semi-colons within lists.
		Punctuation of bullet points to list information.
		How hyphens can be used to avoid ambiguity [for example, man eating shark versus man-eating shark, or recover versus re-cover].
	Terminology for pupils	subject, object
		active, passive

	synonym, antonym
	ellipsis, hyphen, colon, semi-colon, bullet points



Terms in definitions

The grammatical terms that pupils should learn are labelled as 'terminology for pupils'. They should learn to recognise and use the terminology through discussion and practice.

Term	Guidance	Example
active voice	An active <u>verb</u> has its usual pattern of <u>subject</u> and <u>object</u> (in contrast with the <u>passive</u>).	Active: <i>The school arranged a visit</i> . Passive: <i>A visit was arranged</i> by the school.
adjective	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), or after the verb be, as its complement. Adjectives cannot be modified by other adjectives. This distinguishes them from nouns, which can be. Adjectives are sometimes called 'describing words' because they pick out single characteristics such as size or colour. This is often true, but it doesn't help to distinguish adjectives from other word classes, because verbs, nouns and adverbs can do the same thing.	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] Not adjectives: The lamp glowed. [verb] It was such a bright red! [noun] He spoke loudly. [adverb] It was a French grammar book. [noun]
adverb	The surest way to identify adverbs is by the ways they can be used: they can <u>modify</u> a <u>verb</u> , an <u>adjective</u> , another adverb or even a whole clause. Adverbs are sometimes said to describe manner or time. This is often true, but it doesn't help to distinguish adverbs from other word classes that can be used as <u>adverbials</u> , such as <u>preposition phrases</u> , <u>noun phrases</u> and <u>subordinate clauses</u> .	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] Not adverbs:



Term	Guidance	Example
adverbial	An adverbial is a word or phrase that is used, like an adverb,	Usha went up the stairs. [preposition phrase used as adverbial] She finished her work this evening. [noun phrase used as adverbial] She finished when the teacher got cross. [subordinate clause used as adverbial] The bus leaves in five minutes. [preposition phrase as adverbial: modifies leaves]
	to modify a verb or clause. Of course, <u>adverbs</u> can be used as adverbials, but many other types of words and phrases can be used this way, including <u>preposition phrases</u> and <u>subordinate clauses</u> .	She promised to see him <u>last night</u> . [noun phrase modifying either promised or see, according to the intended meaning] She worked until she had finished. [subordinate clause as adverbial]
antonym	Two words are antonyms if their meanings are opposites.	hot – cold light – dark light – heavy
apostrophe	Apostrophes have two completely different uses: showing the place of missing letters(e.g. <i>I'm</i> for <i>I am</i>) marking <u>possessives</u> (e.g. <i>Hannah's mother</i>).	<u>I'm</u> going out and I <u>won't</u> be long. [showing missing letters] <u>Hannah's</u> mother went to town in <u>Justin's</u> car. [marking possessives]
article	The articles <i>the</i> (definite) and <i>a</i> or <i>an</i> (indefinite) are the most common type of <u>determiner</u> .	<u>The</u> dog found <u>a</u> bone in <u>an</u> old box.
auxiliary verb	The auxiliary verbs are: be, have, do and the modal verbs. They can be used to make questions and negative statements. In addition: be is used in the progressive and passive have is used in the perfect do is used to form questions and negative statements if no other auxiliary verb is present	They are winning the match. [be used in the progressive] Have you finished your picture? [have used to make a question, and the perfect] No, I don't know him. [do used to make a negative; no other auxiliary is present] Will you come with me or not? [modal verb will used to make a question about the other person's willingness]
clause	A clause is a special type of <u>phrase</u> whose <u>head</u> is a <u>verb</u> . Clauses can sometimes be complete sentences. Clauses may	It was raining. [single-clause sentence]



Term	Guidance	Example
cohesion	be main or subordinate. Traditionally, a clause had to have a finite verb, but most modern grammarians also recognise non-finite clauses. A text has cohesion if it is clear how the meanings of its parts fit together. Cohesive devices can help to do this. In the example, there are repeated references to the same thing (shown by the different style pairings), and the logical relations, such as time and cause, between different parts are clear.	It was raining but we were indoors. [two finite clauses] If you are coming to the party, please let us know. [finite subordinate clause inside a finite main clause] Usha went upstairs to play on her computer. [non-finite clause] A visit has been arranged for Year 6, to the Mountain Peaks Field Study Centre, leaving school at 9.30am. This is an overnight visit. The centre has beautiful grounds and a nature trail. During the afternoon, the children will follow the trail.
cohesive device	Cohesive devices are words used to show how the different parts of a text fit together. In other words, they create cohesion. Some examples of cohesive devices are: - determiners and pronouns, which can refer back to earlier words - conjunctions and adverbs, which can make relations between words clear - ellipsis of expected words.	Julia's dad bought her a football. The football was expensive! [determiner; refers us back to a particular football] Joe was given a bike for Christmas. He liked it very much. [the pronouns refer back to Joe and the bike] We'll be going shopping before we go to the park. [conjunction; makes a relationship of time clear] I'm afraid we're going to have to wait for the next train. Meanwhile, we could have a cup of tea. [adverb; refers back to the time of waiting] Where are you going? [_] To school! [ellipsis of the expected words I'm going; links the answer back to the question]
complement	A verb's subject complement adds more information about its <u>subject</u> , and its object complement does the same for its <u>object</u> . Unlike the verb's object, its complement may be an adjective. The verb <i>be</i> normally has a complement.	She is <u>our teacher</u> . [adds more information about the subject, she] They seem very competent. [adds more information about the subject, they] Learning makes me <u>happy</u> . [adds more information about the object, me]

Term	Guidance	Example
compound, compounding	A compound word contains at least two <u>root words</u> in its <u>morphology</u> ; e.g. whiteboard, superman. Compounding is very important in English.	blackbird, blow-dry, bookshop, ice-cream, English teacher, inkjet, one-eyed, bone-dry, baby-sit, daydream, outgrow
conjunction	A conjunction links two words or phrases together. There are two main types of conjunctions: - co-ordinating conjunctions (e.g. and) link two words or phrases together as an equal pair - subordinating conjunctions (e.g. when) introduce a subordinate clause.	James bought a bat and ball. [links the words bat and ball as an equal pair] Kylie is young but she can kick the ball hard. [links two clauses as an equal pair] Everyone watches when Kyle does back-flips. [introduces a subordinate clause] Joe can't practise kicking because he's injured. [introduces a subordinate clause]
consonant	A sound which is produced when the speaker closes off or obstructs the flow of air through the vocal tract, usually using lips, tongue or teeth. Most of the letters of the alphabet represent consonants. Only the letters a, e, i, o, u and y can represent vowel sounds.	/p/ [flow of air stopped by the lips, then released] /t/ [flow of air stopped by the tongue touching the roof of the mouth, then released] /f/ [flow of air obstructed by the bottom lip touching the top teeth] /s/ [flow of air obstructed by the tip of the tongue touching the gum line]
continuous	See <u>progressive</u> .	
co-ordinate, co-ordination	Words or phrases are co-ordinated if they are linked as an equal pair by a co-ordinating <u>conjunction</u> (i.e. <i>and</i> , <i>but</i> , <i>or</i>). In the examples on the right, the co-ordinated elements are shown in bold, and the conjunction is underlined. The difference between co-ordination and <u>subordination</u> is that, in subordination, the two linked elements are not equal.	Susan and Amra met in a café. [links the words Susan and Amra as an equal pair] They talked and drank tea for an hour. [links two clauses as an equal pair] Susan got a bus but Amra walked. [links two clauses as an equal pair] Not co-ordination: They ate before they met. [before introduces a subordinate clause]
determiner	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)	the home team [article, specifies the team as known] a good team [article, specifies the team as unknown] that pupil [demonstrative, known]

Term	Guidance	Example
	demonstratives (e.g. this, those) - possessives (e.g. my, your) quantifiers (e.g. some, every).	<u>Julia's parents</u> [possessive, known] <u>some</u> big boys [quantifier, unknown] Contrast: home <u>the</u> team, big <u>some</u> boys [both incorrect, because the determiner should come before other modifiers]
digraph	A type of <u>grapheme</u> where two letters represent one <u>phoneme</u> . Sometimes, these two letters are not next to one another; this is called a split digraph.	The digraph <u>ea</u> in <u>ea</u> ch is pronounced /i:/. The digraph <u>sh</u> in <u>sh</u> ed is pronounced /ʃ/. The split digraph <u>i—e</u> in l <u>ine</u> is pronounced /aı/.
ellipsis	Ellipsis is the omission of a word or phrase which is expected and predictable.	Frankie waved to Ivana and <u>she</u> watched her drive away. She did it because she wanted to <u>do it</u> .
etymology	A word's etymology is its history: its origins in earlier forms of English or other languages, and how its form and meaning have changed. Many words in English have come from Greek, Latin or French.	The word <i>school</i> was borrowed from a Greek word $\acute{o}\div\ddot{i}\ddot{e}$ (<i>skholé</i>) meaning 'leisure'. The word <i>verb</i> comes from Latin <i>verbum</i> , meaning 'word'. The word <i>mutton</i> comes from French <i>mouton</i> , meaning 'sheep'.
finite verb	Every sentence typically has at least one verb which is either past or present tense. Such verbs are called 'finite'. The imperative verb in a command is also finite. Verbs that are not finite, such as participles or infinitives, cannot stand on their own: they are linked to another verb in the sentence.	Lizzie does the dishes every day. [present tense] Even Hana did the dishes yesterday. [past tense] Do the dishes, Naser! [imperative] Not finite verbs: I have done them. [combined with the finite verb have] I will do them. [combined with the finite verb will] I want to do them! [combined with the finite verb want]
fronting, fronted	A word or phrase that normally comes after the <u>verb</u> may be moved before the verb: when this happens, we say it has	Before we begin, make sure you've got a pencil. [Without fronting: Make sure you've got a pencil before we begin.]



Term	Guidance	Example
	been 'fronted'. For example, a fronted adverbial is an adverbial which has been moved before the verb. When writing fronted phrases, we often follow them with a comma.	The day after tomorrow, I'm visiting my granddad. [Without fronting: I'm visiting my granddad the day after tomorrow.]
future	Reference to future time can be marked in a number of different ways in English. All these ways involve the use of a present-tense verb. See also tense. Unlike many other languages (such as French, Spanish or Italian), English has no distinct 'future tense' form of the verb comparable with its present and past tenses.	He <u>will leave</u> tomorrow. [present-tense will followed by infinitive leave] He <u>may leave</u> tomorrow. [present-tense may followed by infinitive leave] He <u>leaves</u> tomorrow. [present-tense leaves] He <u>is going to leave</u> tomorrow. [present tense is followed by going to plus the infinitive leave]
gpc	See grapheme-phoneme correspondences.	
grapheme	A letter, or combination of letters, that corresponds to a single <u>phoneme</u> within a word.	The grapheme \underline{t} in the words $\underline{t}en$, \underline{bet} and \underline{ate} corresponds to the phoneme /t/. The grapheme \underline{ph} in the word $\underline{dolphin}$ corresponds to the phoneme /f/.
grapheme-phoneme correspondences	The links between letters, or combinations of letters (graphemes) and the speech sounds (phonemes) that they represent. In the English writing system, graphemes may correspond to different phonemes in different words.	The grapheme s corresponds to the phoneme /s/ in the word <u>see</u> , butit corresponds to the phoneme /z/ in the word <u>easy</u> .
head	See <u>phrase</u> .	
homonym	Two different words are homonyms if they both look exactly the same when written, and sound exactly the same when pronounced.	Has he <u>left</u> yet? Yes – he went through the door on the <u>left</u> . The noise a dog makes is called a <u>bark</u> . Trees have <u>bark</u> .
homophone	Two different words are homophones if they sound exactly	<u>hear</u> , <u>here</u>

Term	Guidance	Example
	the same when pronounced.	some, sum
infinitive	A verb's infinitive is the basic form used as the head-word in a dictionary (e.g. walk, be). Infinitives are often used: after to after modal verbs.	I want to <u>walk</u> . I will <u>be</u> quiet.
inflection	When we add -ed to walk, or change mouse to mice, this change of morphology produces an inflection ('bending') of the basic word which has special grammar (e.g. past tense or plural). In contrast, adding -er to walk produces a completely different word, walker, which is part of the same word family. Inflection is sometimes thought of as merely a change of ending, but, in fact, some words change completely when inflected.	dogs is an inflection of dog. went is an inflection of go. better is an inflection of good.
intransitive verb	A verb which does not need an object in a sentence to complete its meaning is described as intransitive. See 'transitive verb'.	We all <u>laughed</u> . We would like to stay longer, but we must <u>leave</u> .
main clause	A <u>sentence</u> contains at least one <u>clause</u> which is not a <u>subordinate clause</u> ; such a clause is a main clause. A main clause may contain any number of subordinate clauses.	It was raining but the sun was shining. [two main clauses] The man who wrote it told me that it was true. [one main clause containing two subordinate clauses.] She said, "It rained all day." [one main clause containing another.]
modal verb	Modal verbs are used to change the meaning of other <u>verbs</u> . They can express meanings such as certainty, ability, or obligation. The main modal verbs are <i>will</i> , <i>would</i> , <i>can</i> , <i>could</i> , <i>may</i> , <i>might</i> , <i>shall</i> , <i>should</i> , <i>must</i> and <i>ought</i> . A modal verb only has <u>finite</u> forms and has no <u>suffixes</u> (e.g. <i>I</i>	I <u>can</u> do this maths work by myself. This ride <u>may</u> be too scary for you! You <u>should</u> help your little brother. Is it going to rain? Yes, it <u>might</u> .

Term	Guidance	Example
	sing – he sings, but not I must – he musts).	Canning swim is important. [not possible because can must be finite; contrast: Being able to swim is important, where being is not a modal verb]
modify, modifier	One word or phrase modifies another by making its meaning more specific. Because the two words make a <u>phrase</u> , the 'modifier' is normally close to the modified word.	In the phrase <i>primary-school teacher</i> : teacher is modified by primary-school (to mean a specific kind of teacher) school is modified by primary (to mean a specific kind of school).
morphology	A word's morphology is its internal make-up in terms of <u>root</u> words and <u>suffixes</u> or <u>prefixes</u> , as well as other kinds of change such as the change of <i>mouse</i> to <i>mice</i> . Morphology may be used to produce different <u>inflections</u> of the same word (e.g. boy – boys), or entirely new words (e.g. boy – boyish) belonging to the same <u>word family</u> . A word that contains two or more root words is a <u>compound</u> (e.g. news+paper, ice+cream).	dogs has the morphological make-up: dog + s. unhelpfulness has the morphological make-up: unhelpful + ness where unhelpful = un + helpful and helpful = help + ful
noun	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 matters/matter." Nouns are sometimes called 'naming words' because they name people, places and 'things'; this is often true, but it doesn't help to distinguish nouns from other word classes. For example, prepositions can name places and verbs can name 'things' such as actions. Nouns may be classified as common (e.g. boy, day) or proper (e.g. Ivan, Wednesday), and also as countable (e.g. thing, boy) or non-countable (e.g. stuff, money). These classes can be recognised by the determiners they combine with.	Our dog bit the burglar on his behind! My big brother did an amazing jump on his skateboard. Actions speak louder than words. Not nouns: He's behind you! [this names a place, but is a preposition, not a noun] She can jump so high! [this names an action, but is a verb, not a noun] common, countable: a book, books, two chocolates, one day, fewer ideas common, non-countable: money, some chocolate, less imagination proper, countable: Marilyn, London, Wednesday

Term	Guidance	Example
noun phrase	A noun phrase is a <u>phrase</u> with a noun as its <u>head</u> , e.g. <u>some</u> foxes, foxes with bushy tails. Some grammarians recognise one-word phrases, so that foxes are multiplying would contain the noun foxes acting as the head of the noun phrase foxes.	Adult foxes can jump. [adult modifies foxes, so adult belongs to the noun phrase] Almost all healthy adult foxes in this area can jump. [all the other words help to modify foxes, so they all belong to the noun phrase]
object	An object is normally a <u>noun</u> , <u>pronoun</u> or <u>noun phrase</u> that comes straight after the <u>verb</u> , and shows what the verb is acting upon. Objects can be turned into the <u>subject</u> of a <u>passive</u> verb, and cannot be <u>adjectives</u> (contrast with <u>complements</u>).	Year 2 designed puppets. [noun acting as object] I like that. [pronoun acting as object] Some people suggested a pretty display. [noun phrase acting as object] Contrast: A display was suggested. [object of active verb becomes the subject of the passive verb] Year 2 designed pretty. [incorrect, because adjectives cannot be objects]
participle	Verbs in English have two participles, called 'present participle' (e.g. walking, taking) and 'past participle' (e.g. walked, taken). Unfortunately, these terms can be confusing to learners, because: they don't necessarily have anything to do with present or past time although past participles are used as perfects (e.g. has eaten) they are also used as passives (e.g. was eaten).	He is walking to school. [present participle in a progressive] He has taken the bus to school. [past participle in a perfect] The photo was taken in the rain. [past participle in a passive]
passive	The sentence It was eaten by our dog is the passive of Our dog ate it. A passive is recognisable from: - the past participle form eaten - the normal object (it) turned into the subject - the normal subject (our dog) turned into an optional	A visit was <u>arranged</u> by the school. Our cat got <u>run</u> over by a bus. Active versions: The school arranged a visit.

Term	Guidance	Example
past tense	preposition phrase with by as its head - the verb be(was), or some other verb such as get. Contrast active. A verb is not 'passive' just because it has a passive meaning: it must be the passive version of an active verb. Verbs in the past tense are commonly used to: - talk about the past - talk about imagined situations - make a request sound more polite. Most verbs take a suffix -ed, to form their past tense, but many commonly-used verbs are irregular. See also tense.	A bus ran over our cat. Not passive: He received a warning. [past tense, active received] We had an accident. [past tense, active had] Tom and Chris showed me their new TV. [names an event in the past] Antonio went on holiday to Brazil. [names an event in the past; irregular past of go] I wish I had a puppy. [names an imagined situation, not a situation in the past] I was hoping you'd help tomorrow. [makes an implied request sound more polite]
perfect	The perfect form of a <u>verb</u> generally calls attention to the consequences of a prior event; for example, <i>he has gone to lunch</i> implies that he is still away, in contrast with <i>he went to lunch</i> . 'Had gone to lunch' takes a past time point (i.e. when we arrived) as its reference point and is another way of establishing time relations in a text. The perfect tense is formed by: - turning the verb into its past <u>participle inflection</u> - adding a form of the verb <i>have</i> before it. It can also be combined with the <u>progressive</u> (e.g. <i>he has been going</i>).	She <u>has downloaded</u> some songs. [present perfect; now she has some songs] I <u>had eaten</u> lunch when you came. [past perfect; I wasn't hungry when you came]
phoneme	A phoneme is the smallest unit of sound that signals a distinct, contrasting meaning. For example:	The word cat has three letters and three phonemes: /kæt/ The word catch has five letters and three phonemes: /katʃ/



Term	Guidance	Example
	/t/ contrasts with /k/ to signal the difference between tap and cap /t/ contrasts with /l/ to signal the difference between bought and ball.	The word caught has six letters and three phonemes: /kɔ:t/
	It is this contrast in meaning that tells us there are two distinct phonemes at work.	
	There are around 44 phonemes in English; the exact number depends on regional accents. A single phoneme may be represented in writing by one, two, three or four letters constituting a single grapheme.	
phrase	A phrase is a group of words that are grammatically connected so that they stay together, and that expand a single word, called the 'head'. The phrase is a <u>noun phrase</u> if its head is a noun, a <u>preposition phrase</u> if its head is a preposition, and so on; but if the head is a <u>verb</u> , the phrase is called a <u>clause</u> . Phrases can be made up of other phrases.	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] She waved to her mother. [a clause, with the verb waved as its head]
plural	A plural <u>noun</u> normally has a <u>suffix</u> –s or –es and means 'more than one'. There are a few nouns with different <u>morphology</u> in the plural (e.g. <i>mice, formulae</i>).	dogs [more than one dog]; boxes [more than one box] mice [more than one mouse]
possessive	A possessive can be: - a <u>noun</u> followed by an <u>apostrophe</u> , with or without s - a possessive <u>pronoun</u> . The relation expressed by a possessive goes well beyond ordinary ideas of 'possession'. A possessive may act as a <u>determiner</u> .	Taria's book [Tariq has the book] The boys' arrival [the boys arrive] His obituary [the obituary is about him] That essay is mine. [I wrote the essay]

Term	Guidance	Example
prefix	A prefix is added at the beginning of a <u>word</u> in order to turn it into another word.	<u>over</u> take, <u>dis</u> appear
	Contrast suffix.	
preposition	A preposition links a following <u>noun</u> , <u>pronoun</u> or <u>noun phrase</u> 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 <i>before</i> or <i>since</i> can act either as prepositions or as <u>conjunctions</u> .	Tom waved goodbye <u>to</u> Christy. She'll be back <u>from</u> Australia <u>in</u> two weeks. I haven't seen my dog <u>since</u> this morning. Contrast: I'm going, <u>since</u> no-one wants me here! [conjunction: links two clauses]
preposition phrase	A preposition phrase has a preposition as its head followed by a noun, pronoun or noun phrase.	He was <u>in bed</u> . I met them <u>after the party</u> .
present tense	Verbs in the present tense are commonly used to: - talk about the present - talk about the future. They may take a suffix —s (depending on the subject). See also tense.	Jamal goes to the pool every day. [describes a habit that exists now] He can swim. [describes a state that is true now] The bus arrives at three. [scheduled now] My friends are coming to play. [describes a plan in progress now]
progressive	The progressive (also known as the 'continuous') form of a verb generally describes events in progress. It is formed by combining the verb's present participle (e.g. singing) with a form of the verb be (e.g. he was singing). The progressive can also be combined with the perfect (e.g. he has been singing).	Michael <u>is singing</u> in the store room. [present progressive] Amanda <u>was making</u> a patchwork quilt. [past progressive] Usha <u>had been practising</u> for an hour when I called. [past perfect progressive]
pronoun	Pronouns are normally used like <u>nouns</u> , except that: - they are grammatically more specialised - it is harder to <u>modify</u> them	Amanda waved to Michael. She waved to him. John's mother is over there. His mother is over there.

Term	Guidance	Example
	In the examples, each sentence is written twice: once with nouns, and once with pronouns (underlined). Where the same thing is being talked about, the words are shown in bold.	The visit will be an overnight visit . <u>This</u> will be an overnight visit . <u>Simon</u> is the person: <u>Simon</u> broke it. <u>He</u> is the one <u>who</u> broke it.
punctuation	Punctuation includes any conventional features of writing other than spelling and general layout: the standard punctuation marks . , ; : ?!() ""'', and also word-spaces, capital letters, apostrophes, paragraph breaks and bullet points. One important role of punctuation is to indicate sentence boundaries.	<u>"I'</u> m_going_outUshaand_I_won' <u>t</u> _be_long <u>," M</u> um_said <u>.</u>
received pronunciation	Received Pronunciation (often abbreviated to RP) is an accent which is used only by a small minority of English speakers in England. It is not associated with any one region. Because of its regional neutrality, it is the accent which is generally shown in dictionaries in the UK (but not, of course, in the USA). RP has no special status in the national curriculum.	
register	Classroom lessons, football commentaries and novels use different registers of the same language, recognised by differences of vocabulary and grammar. Registers are 'varieties' of a language which are each tied to a range of uses, in contrast with dialects, which are tied to groups of users.	I regret to inform you that Mr Joseph Smith has passed away. [formal letter] Have you heard that Joe has died? [casual speech] Joe falls down and dies, centre stage. [stage direction]
relative clause	A relative clause is a special type of <u>subordinate clause</u> that modifies a <u>noun</u> . It often does this by using a relative <u>pronoun</u> such as <i>who</i> or <i>that</i> to refer back to that noun, though the relative pronoun <i>that</i> is often omitted. A relative clause may also be attached to a <u>clause</u> . In that	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]



Term	Guidance	Example
	case, the pronoun refers back to the whole clause, rather than referring back to a noun.	
	In the examples, the relative clauses are underlined, and both the pronouns and the words they refer back to are in bold.	
root word	Morphology breaks words down into root words, which can stand alone, and <u>suffixes</u> or <u>prefixes</u> which can't. For example, <i>help</i> is the root word for other words in its <u>word family</u> such as <i>helpful</i> and <i>helpless</i> , and also for its <u>inflections</u> such as <i>helping</i> . <u>Compound</u> words (e.g. <i>help-desk</i>) contain two or more root words. When looking in a dictionary, we sometimes have to look for the root word (or words) of the word we are interested in.	played [the root word is play] unfair [the root word is fair] football [the root words are foot and ball]
schwa	The name of a vowel sound that is found only in unstressed positions in English. It is the most common vowel sound in English. It is written as /ə/ in the International Phonetic Alphabet. In the English writing system, it can be written in many different ways.	/əlɒŋ/ [<u>a</u> long] /bʌtə/ [butt <u>er]</u> /dɒktə/ [doct <u>or]</u>
sentence	A sentence is a group of words which are grammatically connected to each other but not to any words outside the sentence. The form of a sentence's main clause shows whether it is being used as a statement, a question, a command or an exclamation. A sentence may consist of a single clause or it may contain several clauses held together by subordination or coordination. Classifying sentences as 'simple', 'complex' or	John went to his friend's house. He stayed there till tea-time. John went to his friend's house, he stayed there till tea-time. [This is a 'comma splice', a common error in which a comma is used where either a full stop or a semi-colon is needed to indicate the lack of any grammatical connection between the two clauses.] You are my friend. [statement] Are you my friend? [question] Be my friend! [command] What a good friend you are! [exclamation]

Term	Guidance	Example
	'compound' can be confusing, because a 'simple' sentence may be complicated, and a 'complex' one may be straightforward. The terms 'single-clause sentence' and 'multi-clause sentence' may be more helpful.	Ali went home on his bike to his goldfish and his current library book about pets. [single-clause sentence] She went shopping but took back everything she had bought because she didn't like any of it. [multi-clause sentence]
split digraph	See <u>digraph</u> .	
standard english	Standard English can be recognised by the use of a very small range of forms such as those books, I did it and I wasn't doing anything (rather than their non-Standard equivalents); it is not limited to any particular accent. It is the variety of English which is used, with only minor variation, as a major world language. Some people use Standard English all the time, in all situations from the most casual to the most formal, so it covers most registers. The aim of the national curriculum is that everyone should be able to use Standard English as needed in writing and in relatively formal speaking.	I did it because they were not willing to undertake any more work on those houses. [formal Standard English] I did it cos they wouldn't do any more work on those houses. [casual Standard English] I done it cos they wouldn't do no more work on them houses. [casual non-Standard English]
stress	A <u>syllable</u> is stressed if it is pronounced more forcefully than the syllables next to it. The other syllables are unstressed.	a <u>bout</u> <u>vis</u> it
subject	The subject of a verb is normally the <u>noun</u> , <u>noun phrase</u> or <u>pronoun</u> that names the 'do-er' or 'be-er'. The subject's normal position is: - just before the <u>verb</u> in a statement - just after the <u>auxiliary verb</u> , in a question. Unlike the verb's <u>object</u> and <u>complement</u> , the subject can determine the form of the verb (e.g. <u>I</u> am, <u>you</u> are).	Rula's mother went out. That is uncertain. The children will study the animals. Will the children study the animals?
subjunctive	In some languages, the <u>inflections</u> of a <u>verb</u> include a large range of special forms which are used typically in <u>subordinate</u>	The school requires that all pupils <u>be</u> honest.

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	clauses, and are called 'subjunctives'. English has very few such forms and those it has tend to be used in rather formal styles.	The school rules demand that pupils not <u>enter</u> the gym at lunchtime. If Zoë <u>were</u> the class president, things would be much better.
subordinate, subordination	A subordinate word or phrase tells us more about the meaning of the word it is subordinate to. Subordination can be thought of as an unequal relationship between a subordinate word and a main word. For example: - an adjective is subordinate to the noun it modifies - subjects and objects are subordinate to their verbs. Subordination is much more common than the equal relationship of co-ordination. See also subordinate clause.	big dogs [big is subordinate to dogs] Big dogs need long walks. [big dogs and long walks are subordinate to need] We can watch TV when we've finished. [when we've finished is subordinate to watch]
subordinate clause	A clause which is <u>subordinate</u> to some other part of the same <u>sentence</u> is a subordinate clause; for example, in <i>The apple</i> that I ate was sour, the clause that I ate is subordinate to apple (which it <u>modifies</u>). Subordinate clauses contrast with <u>co-ordinate</u> clauses as in It was sour but looked very tasty. (Contrast: <u>main clause</u>) However, clauses that are directly quoted as direct speech are not subordinate clauses.	That's the street where Ben lives. [relative clause; modifies street] He watched her as she disappeared. [adverbial; modifies watched] What you said was very nice. [acts as subject of was] She noticed an hour had passed. [acts as object of noticed] Not subordinate: He shouted, "Look out!"
suffix	A suffix is an 'ending', used at the end of one word to turn it into another word. Unlike <u>root words</u> , suffixes cannot stand on their own as a complete word. Contrast <u>prefix</u> .	call – call <u>ed</u> teach – teach <u>er</u> [turns a <u>verb</u> into a <u>noun</u>] terror – terror <u>ise</u> [turns a noun into a verb] green – green <u>ish</u> [leaves <u>word class</u> unchanged]
syllable	A syllable sounds like a beat in a <u>word</u> . Syllables consist of at	Cat has one syllable.

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	least one <u>vowel</u> , and possibly one or more <u>consonants</u> .	Fairy has two syllables.
		Hippopotamus has five syllables.
synonym	Two words are synonyms if they have the same meaning, or	talk – speak
	similar meanings. Contrast <u>antonym</u> .	old – elderly
tense	In English, tense is the choice between <u>present</u> and <u>past</u>	He <u>studies</u> . [present tense – present time]
	<u>verbs</u> , which is special because it is signalled by <u>inflections</u> and normally indicates differences of time. In contrast,	He <u>studied</u> yesterday. [past tense – past time]
	languages like French, Spanish and Italian, have three or	He <u>studies</u> tomorrow, or else! [present tense – future time]
	more distinct tense forms, including a future tense. (See also:	He <u>may study</u> tomorrow. [present tense + infinitive – future time]
	future.)	He <u>plans</u> to <u>study</u> tomorrow. [present tense + infinitive – future time]
	The simple tenses (present and past) may be combined in English with the <u>perfect</u> and <u>progressive</u> .	If he studied tomorrow, he'd see the difference! [past tense – imagined future]
		Contrast three distinct tense forms in Spanish:
		Estudia. [present tense]
		Estudió. [past tense]
		Estudiará. [future tense]
transitive verb	A transitive verb takes at least one object in a sentence to	He <u>loves</u> Juliet.
	complete its meaning, in contrast to an <u>intransitive verb</u> , which does not.	She <u>understands</u> English grammar.
trigraph	A type of grapheme where three letters represent one	H <u>iqh</u> , p <u>ure</u> , pa <u>tch</u> , he <u>dge</u>
	phoneme.	
unstressed	See <u>stressed</u> .	
verb	The surest way to identify verbs is by the ways they can be	He <u>lives</u> in Birmingham. [present tense]
	used: they can usually have a <u>tense</u> , either <u>present</u> or <u>past</u> (see also <u>future</u>).	The teacher <u>wrote</u> a song for the class. [past tense]
	Verbs are sometimes called 'doing words' because many	He <u>likes</u> chocolate. [present tense; not an action]



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	verbs name an action that someone does; while this can be a way of recognising verbs, it doesn't distinguish verbs from nouns (which can also name actions). Moreover many verbs name states or feelings rather than actions. Verbs can be classified in various ways: for example, as auxiliary, or modal; as transitive or intransitive; and as states or events.	He <u>knew</u> my father. [past tense; not an action] Not verbs: The <u>walk</u> to Halina's house will take an hour. [noun] All that <u>surfing</u> makes Morwenna so sleepy! [noun]
vowel	A vowel is a speech sound which is produced without any closure or obstruction of the vocal tract. Vowels can form <u>syllables</u> by themselves, or they may combine with <u>consonants</u> . In the English writing system, the letters <i>a</i> , <i>e</i> , <i>i</i> , <i>o</i> , <i>u</i> and <i>y</i> can represent vowels.	
word	A word is a unit of grammar: it can be selected and moved around relatively independently, but cannot easily be split. In punctuation, words are normally separated by word spaces. Sometimes, a sequence that appears grammatically to be two words is collapsed into a single written word, indicated with a hyphen or apostrophe (e.g. well-built, he's).	headteacher or head teacher [can be written with or without a space] I'm going out. 9.30 am
word class	Every <u>word</u> belongs to a word class which summarises the ways in which it can be used in grammar. The major word classes for English are: <u>noun</u> , <u>verb</u> , <u>adjective</u> , <u>adverb</u> , <u>preposition</u> , <u>determiner</u> , <u>pronoun</u> , <u>conjunction</u> . Word classes are sometimes called 'parts of speech'.	
word family	The <u>words</u> in a word family are normally related to each other by a combination of <u>morphology</u> , grammar and meaning.	teach – teacher extend – extent – extensive grammar – grammatical – grammarian