Vocabulary Grammar and Punctuation Terminology

Adjective

A word that describes or modifies a noun or pronoun.

In the sentence
“It was a hard test.”

The word **‘hard’** is an adjective.



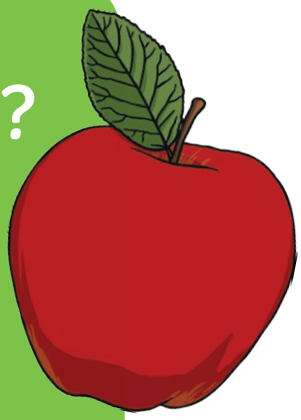
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Question

A sentence that asks for a reply.

Did you take my apple?



How long did it take you to get to school?

What did you get for your birthday?



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Statement

Something stated in words.

The primary school changed the school uniform so that everybody wears red jumpers.





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Verb

An action word. Verbs usually have different forms to express tense, voice, mood, and number.

Examples of verbs are:

read
seemed
drives
blew
skip



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Adverb

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

In the sentence **"Unfortunately, she spoke so slowly that most of the audience was very bored,"** the words **'unfortunately,'** **'slowly,'** and **'very'** are adverbs.



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Apostrophe

An apostrophe is used to show where one or more letters or numbers have been left out.

wouldn't = would not

'87 = 1987



It is also used to show possession

Susan's clothes

and

Charlie's Bike

use apostrophes this way.



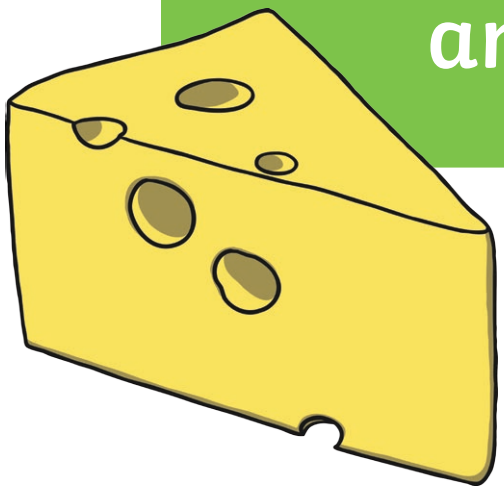
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Comma

A comma is used to show separate words, phrases or other parts of a sentence. It can also be used in a list or to show a pause in speech.

"I went to the market and bought eggs, chicken, milk and cheese"





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Exclamation

A sentence to express strong feelings. They begin with 'What' or 'How' and end with an exclamation mark.

"What a dangerous mountain to climb!"

"How hot it is today!"



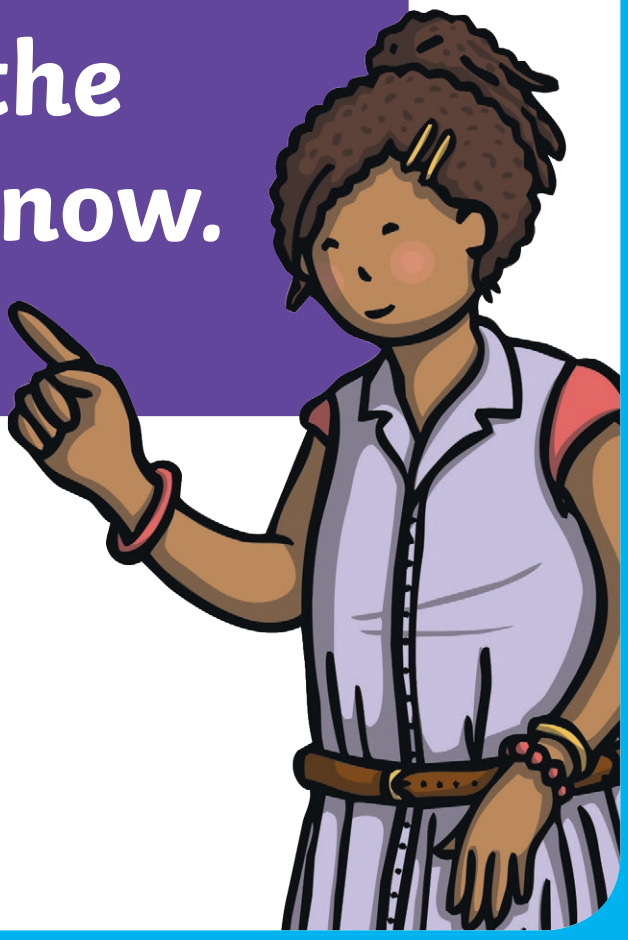
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Command

A command gives an instruction or tells someone to do something. Commands usually begin with an imperative.

Leave the building now.



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Compound

Compound words are made up of two or more different ones to make a new one:

police + man = policeman

play + ground = playground

hair + cut = hair cut



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Noun Phrase

A noun phrase includes a noun and the modifiers which distinguish it, including adjectives.

If dog is a noun, a noun phrase is a way of giving more information about the dog:

- **that dog**
- **the dog on the sofa**
- **uncle Eric's brown dog**



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Noun

A word that names a person, place, thing, or condition. A noun may be the subject of a sentence or the object of a verb or preposition.

In the sentence,
"Ayan likes to eat popcorn at the cinema."
'Ayan', **'popcorn'** and **'cinema'** are nouns.



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Suffix

A letter or group of letters added to the end of a word to make a new word with a slightly different meaning.



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Tense

The aspect of verbs that shows when an action takes place. Verbs can be in the **past**, **present**, or **future** tense:



played
(past tense)

playing
(present tense)

play
(future tense)



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Co-ordination

Co-ordinating conjunctions join two or more main clauses together in a sentence.

In the sentence, 'They were going to cut the trees down, but nobody wanted them to,' the word 'but' is the co-ordinating conjunction.

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Subordination

Subordinating conjunctions add extra information to our sentence but are not as important as the main clause.

In the sentence, 'I will cut the grass, if it stops raining,' the word 'if' is the subordinating conjunction.



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