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A guide to the new national curriculum's grammatical terms for those of us who weren't taught grammar at school.



Many parents were not taught grammar at school and therefore might not be confident with the topic.

The purpose of this guide is to help explain some of the terms, which your son or daughter is expected to know as part of the new national curriculum.

The following terms are covered:

Year 1

Words

Letters vs. Capitals

Punctuation Full Stops

Exclamation Marks

Singular vs. Plural

Sentences

Year 2

Nouns

Adjectives

Verbs Tense

Progressive

Adverbs

Noun Phrases

Statements

Questions

Exclamations

Commands

Suffixes

Apostrophes

Commas

Compound Sentences

Year 3

Consonants vs. Vowels

Word Families

Clauses

Conjunctions

Prefixes

Perfect

Prepositions

Inverted Commas

Year 4

Articles

Adverbials

Determiners

Pronouns

Possessive Pronouns

Year 5

Ambiguity

Auxiliary Verbs

Modal Verbs

Brackets

Cohesion

Relative Clauses

Dashes

Parenthesis

Year 6

Active and Passive Voice

Synonyms and Antonyms

Subject vs. Object

Ellipsis

Semicolons

Colons

Bullet Points

Hyphens

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Articles don't really have a meaning of their own, but they affect the sentence they are a part of.

There are two types of article.

The definite article

The indefinite article

the

a or an

When 'the' is used, it generally indicates the noun is familiar or specific.

When 'a' or 'an' is used it normally gives less emphasis or shows less importance.

BIE BER

Articles are determiners.

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MANUEL STATES OF

Adverbials modify verbs. They tell us something about the clause of which they are a part.

They can be single words, phrases, or clauses.

Where?

When?

How?

words

here

usually

quickly

phrases

to work

for a day

by train

clauses

travelling by train

after we had eaten as he always did

A fronted adverbial is always followed by a comma.

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A determiner will normally give more information about a noun.

Common determiners are

a/an, the this, these my, your some, many

articles demonstratives possessives quantifiers

They can determine whether a noun is singular or plural; how definite or specific a noun is, or how many.

BEET STATES

Find the noun that affects the verb to find the head.



MING STEETS OF

Pronouns are words used in place of nouns or noun phrases.

Personal pronouns are the most common type.

I - first person singular

you - second person singular

he/she - third person singular

we - first person plural

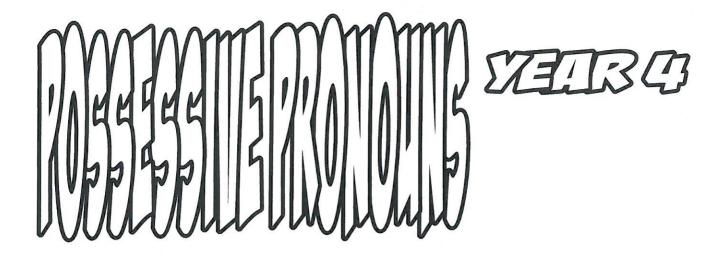
you - second person plural

they - third person plural

Verbs can react differently, depending on the pronoun that has been used.

Pronouns help to avoid repetition.





Possessive pronouns are used to show ownership.

mine, yours, his, hers, their, ours, its

'Its' doesn't require à possessive apostrophe.

When possessive words are determiners, they often change form.

mine becomes my yours becomes your

