

# Grammar



## A Parents' Guide

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

# WORDS

**YEAR 1**

Words are used to help us talk to each other.

There are lots and lots of words.

They all have:

a way they are spoken

a way they are spelled

one or more meaning

**REMEMBER!**

Words help us talk and communicate.





# LETTERS VS. CAPITALS *YEAR 1*

Letters and capital letters sound the same when they're spoken...

abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz  
ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

...but they look different.

**USE CAPITALS**

at the beginning of sentences  
at the beginning of people's names  
at the beginning of place names  
when using 'I' to talk about ourselves

**REMEMBER!**

Only use capitals when required.



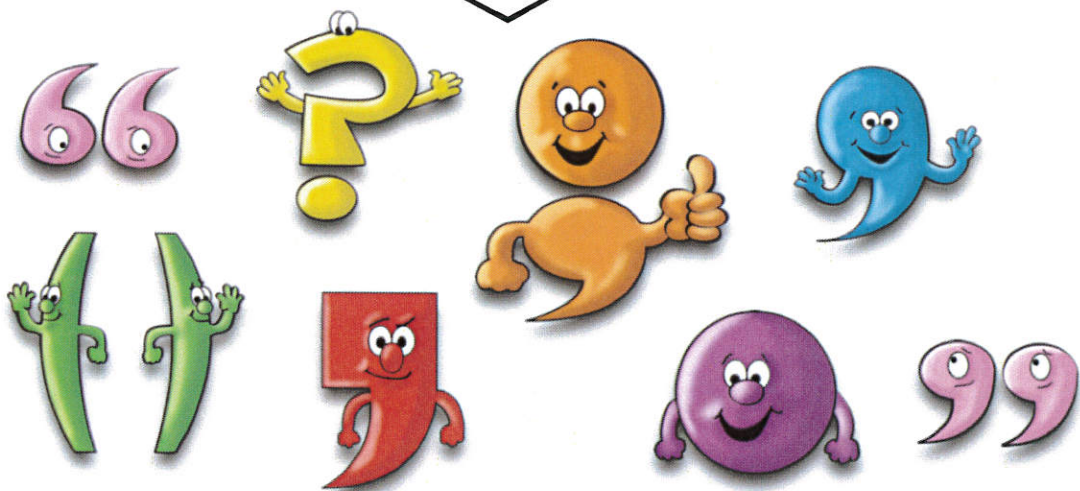
# PUNCTUATION!

YEAR 1

Punctuation helps us to read sentences.

There are lots of punctuation marks that give us clues about when to pause and how to end sentences.

Don't tell the grown ups, but...



Punctuation marks are really the Punctuation Pals - a group of friendly aliens who help us to communicate.

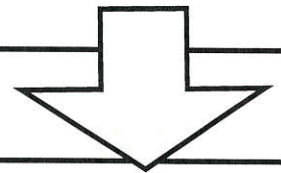




# FULL STOPS

**YEAR 1**

A full stop lets a reader know when to stop reading and pause.



A full stop goes at the end of a sentence.



**FOR EXAMPLE**

The man walked  
across the road.

The dog chased the  
cat.

The full stop  
goes here to  
show that the  
sentence has  
finished.

A full stop doesn't  
just go at the end of a  
line - check it makes  
sense.

**REMEMBER!**



# EXCLAMATION MARKS *YEAR 1*

Exclamation marks are used to show strong feeling or emotion.

They're commonly used at the end of a command or to imply shouting.

Exclamation marks show strong emotion.

**FOR EXAMPLE**

You're in trouble!

How silly this is!

That's a ridiculous decision!

The exclamation mark adds more feeling.

**REMEMBER!**

Don't use too many.

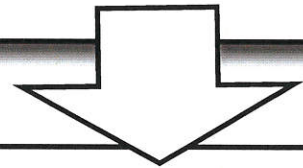




# QUESTION MARKS

YEAR 1

We use question marks to go at the end of sentences that ask questions.



They will replace the full stop.



FOR EXAMPLE

Where's my supper?

Who are you?

What's your name?

The question marks go here.

**REMEMBER!**

Questions need a question mark and not a full stop.

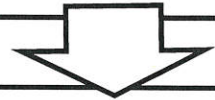




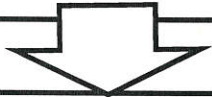
# SINGULAR VS. PLURAL

**YEAR 1**

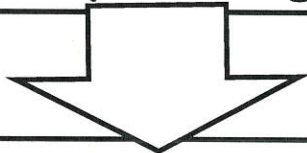
Singular means one.



Plural means more than one.



We can normally change a singular word to a plural word by adding 's' or 'es'.



**FOR EXAMPLE**

book becomes books  
cow becomes cows  
bus becomes buses  
potato becomes potatoes

**REMEMBER!**

Take care with words  
that don't become  
plural in the usual  
ways.



# SENTENCES

**YEAR 1**

To create a simple sentence, we follow simple rules.

**FOR EXAMPLE**

The man sneezed loudly.

We need a capital letter and a full stop.

**AND**

The man sneezed loudly.

It will usually have a subject and a verb.

**REMEMBER!**

A sentence should be a full thought.