

ST. THOMAS OF CANTERBURY C OF E JUNIOR SCHOOL "Realising the potential of every child within a caring, Christian community"

# Grammar and and Punctuation Guide



### Useful Information

- Words written in **bold** are defined somewhere within the guide.
- <u>Underlined</u> words show subheadings/categories within a definition.
- Bullet points show example words/phrases/sentences.
- Phrases/words/letters/punctuation in *italics* are specific examples of the term being described.
- Brackets show links to other information which might be relevant.

Term	Definition and Examples
Active voice	A <b>sentence</b> is written in the active voice when the <b>subject</b> of the
	sentence performs the action in the sentence.
(see passive voice)	
	• <i>The girl</i> was washing the dog.
	• <i>Mark</i> was eating an apple.
	• <i>He</i> opened the present.
Adjective	A word to describe a <b>noun</b> .
(see noun)	• The little green bird pecked the juicy apple.
	Comparative: The dirtier jumper.
	Superlative: The dirtiest jumper.
Adverb	A word to describe a <b>verb</b> , <b>adjective</b> or another <b>adverb</b> - how, when
	or where something is done.
(see verb)	
	• She climbed <i>quickly</i> .
	• She climbed <i>yesterday</i> .
	• She climbed everywhere.
Adverbials	Adverb phrase (does not need a verb)
	A <b>phrase</b> which does the job of an <b>adverb</b> . Could come before or
	after the main <b>clause</b> .
	• She <i>gleefully and greedily</i> ate the cake.
	• The carpenter hit the nail with a hammer.
	Adverb clause (needs a verb)
	A clause which does the job of an adverb. Could come before or
	after main <b>clause</b> .
	• Keep hitting the gong, <i>until I tell you to stop</i> .
	• If it doesn't rain, we will go to the beach.
	Fronted adverbial
	A fronted adverbial is an adverbial that comes at the start of a
	sentence.
	• <i>Before the sun came up</i> , he ate his breakfast.
Antonym	A word opposite in meaning to another word.
(see synonym)	• <i>hot</i> and <i>cold</i> ,
,	• long and short,
	• up and down.

### Article

A small word used before a **noun** to show whether it is a particular item or a general item.

- Definite article *The* cat sat on the mat.
- Indefinite article *A* cat walked down the street.

You use 'an' if the **noun** begins with a vowel <u>sound</u>.

- Vowel sounds an apple, an hour, an eagle, an orange
- Consonants a plane, a table, a ruler

### **Auxiliary verb**

(see modal verbs)

Known as helping **verbs** – they help make the meaning of a verb clear. The most common auxiliary verbs are: *have*, *be* and *do*. **Modal verbs** are examples too.

- I have given the matter a lot of thought.
- The cat is sleeping.
- The window was broken.
- We did enjoy the party last night.
- Will you come with me?
- No, I *don't* know him.

### Clause

A group of words that has a **subject** and **verb**.

# (see subordinate clause, conjunction, pronouns)

### Main clause

Must make sense as a **sentence** on its own.

• The man sat down.

### Subordinate clause

Doesn't make sense on its own but adds extra information to a sentence. It usually starts with a **subordinating conjunction**. Subordinate means less important.

- The cat slept *while the rain fell*.
- *Until the bell rang*, the children worked hard.

### Embedded clause

When the subordinate clause is placed within the main clause and usually marked by commas either side.

• The man, who liked a rest, sat down.

### Relative clause

Relates to the noun in the main clause. Usually start with a relative **pronoun**: who, that, which, whose, where, when.

• The girl, who enjoyed films, went to the cinema.

(see pronouns, preposition, conjunction)	<ul> <li>Words or phrases which link ideas in a sentence together. Some cohesive devices refer back to previously used nouns using pronouns.</li> <li>Joe had a bike. He liked it.</li> <li>Others, such as prepositions, link words in phrases.</li> <li>Samantha put her maths book in the drawer.</li> <li>Adverbs and conjunctions link ideas between clauses.</li> </ul>
Complex verb	We'll be going shopping <i>before</i> we go to the park.  A <b>clause</b> which contains both a main <b>verb</b> and an auxiliary <b>verb</b> .
(see auxiliary	She was walking home.
verb) Conjunction	(was = auxiliary verb, walking = main verb)  It links two words or phrases together within a sentence. There are three types.
(see clause, subordinate	Co ordinating conjunctions
clause)	<u>Co-ordinating conjunctions</u> Link equally important words or <b>phrases</b> e.g. and, so, but, or.
	Correlating conjunctions Act just like <b>co-ordinating conjunctions</b> but work in pairs within a sentence e.g. either or, not only but also, whether or
	Subordinating conjunctions Link a main <b>clause</b> to a <b>subordinating clause</b> e.g. while, because, although, therefore, unless, if.
Contraction	A word or phrase that has been shortened by dropping one or more letters. An <b>apostrophe</b> takes the place of the missing letter(s).
(see apostrophe)	A way was a grow't
	<ul> <li>Are not – aren't</li> <li>Cannot – can't</li> </ul>
	• She will – she'll
	<ul> <li>Will not - won't</li> <li>I will - I'll</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Should have – should've</li> </ul>
	• Had not – <i>hadn't</i>
	<ul> <li>He had – he'd</li> <li>Let us – let's</li> </ul>
Demarcation	Punctuation to show a sentence start or end.
(see punctuation)	e.g. capital letter at the start and full stop, question mark, exclamation mark or ellipsis at the end.

### **Determiners**

(see article)

Determiners are words placed in front of a **noun** to make it clear what the noun refers to.

It can be an **article** (the, a, an), a demonstrative (this, that, those, these), possessive (my, yours, his, her, its, our, your, their), quantifier (some, every) or interrogative (what, which, whose).

### Article

- I live in *the* small house.
- I live in a small house.

### Demonstrative

- This car needs a wash, that car is fine.
- *These* apples are mine, *those* apples are yours.

### Possessive

- Did you find my shoes?
- This is *our* house.

### Quantifier

- Some children entered the race.
- Every child entered the race.

### Interrogative

- What toppings do you want on your pizza?
- Which shoes are yours?

# Formal and informal

### Formal Language

The language we use in official, or formal, situations.

### (see contractions)

When writing formally:

- Try not to use **contractions**, colloquialisms or question tags (don't you think?)
- A colloquialism is a word or phrase that is used mainly in everyday conversation such as 'I wasn't born yesterday'.
- Finish letters correctly (yours sincerely, yours faithfully.)

### Informal Language

The language used in everyday situations.

### Informal language might include:

- **Contractions**, colloquialisms or question tags.
- Capital letters for emphasis.

### We use informal language for:

- Letters, texts, emails to family and friends.
- Notes.
- Lists.

### Homograph

Words that are spelt the same but have different meanings and may be pronounced differently.

- There is a *tear* in my eye.
- I *tear* the page out the book.

Uomonym	Words that are spelt and pronounced in the same way but have a
Homonym	different meaning and origin.
	different meaning and origin.
	a We want he heat
	• We row the boat.
	• I am standing in a row.
Homophone	Words that are pronounced the same way but have a different
	meaning and sometimes a different spelling.
	• Saw → Sore
	New → Knew
I and me	I is used on its own or with a <b>noun</b> when either is the <b>subject</b>
	of the <b>verb</b> :
(see subject,	
object, pronoun,	• <i>I went</i> for a walk.
preposition)	• Jane and I went for a walk.
,	
	Me is used on its own or with a noun when either is the
	<b>object</b> of the verb:
	• The teacher <i>blamed me</i> .
	• The teacher blamed <i>Jane and me</i> .
	The teacher planted suite and me.
	Mo is also used when the manager is used as part of a managition.
	Me is also used when the <b>pronoun</b> is used as part of a <b>preposition</b> :
	T 1' '/1
	• Jane came cycling <i>with me</i> .
T	A ' 1' 1 1' 1' 1' 1' 1' 1' 1' 1' 1' 1' 1'
Imperative	An imperative is a <b>verb</b> that gives a direction or a command. They
	are often known as 'bossy verbs'.
(see subject)	
, ,	The verb is used in its simplest form, typically without a <b>subject</b> .
,	The verb is used in its simplest form, typically without a <b>subject</b> .
,	• Sit down.
,	
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	• Sit down.
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Modal verb	A <b>verb</b> that changes the mean	=
	likelihood of something happer	ning.
	e.g. could, should, would, migl	ht, may, must
	• I <i>could</i> go to the park today	
	• I <i>must</i> do my homework tor	
	• We <i>might</i> visit the zoo at the	
Nominalisation	Turning words from other word	d classes, usually verbs, into a noun
	phrase.	
	771	
	• The charity walk.	
	• The fun <i>run</i> .	at aggregational quarming
Non-standard	Scientists cannot agree what  Not following the usual rules of	
English	Not following the usual rules of pronunciation, spelling or vocabulary to represent local patterns of speech (dialect).	
211611011	vocabalary to represent local p	vatterns of specen (dialect).
	Non-standard English:	English:
	We was well pleased.	We were very pleased.
	I writ me story.	I wrote my story.
	I need a kip.	I need a sleep.
37	I ain't doing it.	I am not doing it.
Noun	A word that names a person, p	place or thing.
	Common Noun	
	Names a general thing, e.g. <i>tal</i>	ble, chair, park, bou, dentist.
		, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
	<u>Pronouns</u>	
	A word used to replace a noun	to avoid repetition, e.g. <i>I, you, she,</i>
	he, we, they.	
	Proper Noun	
		or thing, e.g. Brentwood, Mark,
	Elizabeth, Father Christmas, W	Vednesday.
	Concrete Noun	
	Refers to objects that exist phy	vsically e.g. <i>clock, pens, dog.</i>
	Abstract Noun	
		g, time, quality or idea that has no
	physical form, e.g. sorrow, cou	rage, freedom, heroism.
	<u>Collective Noun</u>	
		people, animals or things, e.g. family,
	team, herd, pack of cards, boud	
Noun phrase		sts of a <b>noun</b> that is modified by other tives, additional nouns or <b>preposition</b>
(see article,	<b>phrases</b> to add extra informati	·
adjective,	_	
preposition)	• <i>The</i> shed	
	• The blue shed	
	• The blue garden shed	
	The blue garden shed behing	d the rose bushes.

Object	A noun that is acted upon by the <b>subject</b> .	
(see subject)	• The boy hit <i>the bear</i> .	
,	• The boy hit <i>the brown bear</i> .	
	• The boy hit <i>it</i> .	
	• The dog ate the bone.	
	• They gave <i>some old books</i> .	
Passive voice	Where the <b>subject</b> is not doing the action of the <b>sentence</b> but is	
	being acted upon by something else in the sentence. (The subject is	
(see active voice,		
object, subject)	• Passive voice = <i>The door was closed by the girl.</i>	
	<ul> <li>Active voice = The girl closed the door.</li> </ul>	
	There voice The gut closed the door.	
	• Passive voice = The cake was baked by the chef.	
	• Active voice = The chef baked the cake.	
Phrase	A sequence of words that is grammatically connected.	
(see adverb phrase,	41 1 1	
noun phrase,	• the brown bear	
preposition phrase,	• a grumpy teacher	
complex verb	• through the window	
phrase)	• has been working	
Prefix	A letter or string of letters added to the front of a word to change its meaning.	
(see suffix)	meaning.	
(333 333)	• appear – <i>di</i> sappear	
	• behave – <i>mis</i> behave	
	• work – <i>over</i> work	
	• take – <i>re</i> take - <i>under</i> take	
Preposition	A word that shows the relationship between a <b>noun</b> or <b>pronoun</b> and	
-	another word in a sentence. This could be to show location (on,	
(see noun,	under, in), timing (before, after, during) or direction (from, toward,	
pronoun, noun	along).	
phrase)		
	• The cat is <i>on</i> the table.	
	• We played football <i>before</i> lunch.	
	• The ball rolled <i>along</i> the floor.	
	Preposition phrase	
	A preposition followed by a <b>noun</b> , <b>pronoun</b> or <b>noun phrase</b> .	
	We pushed our chairs <i>under the desk</i> .	
	<ul> <li>The exam lasted for forty-five minutes.</li> </ul>	
	• The car moved <i>toward the kerb</i> .	
Pronouns	A word used to replace a noun to avoid repetition.	
(see noun	• Fred is reading A Us is reading	
(see noun, subject, object,	<ul> <li>Fred is reading. → He is reading.</li> <li>Children are singing. → They are singing.</li> </ul>	
conjunction,	• Children are singing. → <i>They</i> are singing.	
subordinate		
clause)		
,		

There are different groups of pronouns.

### Personal subject pronouns

They are used as substitutes for a **noun** in a sentence (where the noun is the **subject** of the sentence) e.g. I, you, he, she, it, we, they.

### Personal object pronouns

They are used as substitutes for a **noun** in a sentence (where the noun is the **object** in the sentence) e.g. me, you, him, her, it, us, them.

### Reflexive pronouns

They refer to another **noun** in the sentence and end in 'self' or 'selves' e.g. myself, yourself, himself, herself, itself.

### Possessive pronouns

These pronouns show ownership e.g. mine, yours, those, his, hers, its, ours, yours, theirs, one's.

### Relative pronouns

Act as **conjunctions** introducing a **subordinate clause** e.g. who, which, that, whom, whose.

### **Punctuation**

### Capital letters

(see contraction, adverbials)

Uppercase form of a letter used for: the beginning of a sentence, people's names, the pronoun I, days of the week, months of the year, names of places, book titles, film titles, play titles, headings, subheadings.

• **K**atie lived in **B**rentwood.

### Full stops.

Show the end of a sentence or finish sentences.

Matthew loves football.

### Question marks?

Show the end of a question in place of a full stop.

- Where shall we go?
- Do you want some cake?

### Exclamation marks!

Show strong feelings (such as joy, shock, anger) or emphasise commands. They are used in place of a full stop.

- I hate you!
- I can't believe it!

### <u>Commas in lists</u> ,\_\_\_\_\_,

Used between items in a list except for the last two where you would use 'or', 'and' or 'but'.

- We had chicken, potatoes, carrots, peas and broccoli.
- I didn't know whether to laugh, cry or scream.

### Commas to clarify meaning,

Used to add extra information in a sentence.

• The carpenter, working patiently and methodically, did a wonderful job.

### Commas after fronted adverbials,

When we put an **adverb phrase or clause** before the **main clause**, we use commas to separate them.

• When we found the saw, he started the job.

### Inverted commas " '

We use inverted commas to show someone is speaking.

- "I need a hammer," said Bob.
- Nick said, "Catching butterflies is sometimes tricky."

### Apostrophes'

- 1) To show possession (when one thing belongs to another).
- Andrew's car was red.
- Jesus' disciples included Matthew, Mark and John.
- The children's party had started.

If it's a plural ending in s, the possessive apostrophe comes after the s.

- The boys' jumpers.
- The girls' toilets were out of order.
- 2) To show omissions and **contractions**:
- I can't attend the party. (cannot)
- You could've waited for me. (could have)
- Twas the night before Christmas... (It was)

### Note that:

- 'It's' refers to the contraction of 'it is' or 'it has'.
- 'Its' refers to something belonging to it.

### Parenthesis () -,

This is when extra detail or information can be added to a sentence. This can be shown by brackets (), dashes - -, or commas , , .

- The motorway (not popular with local people) will be built next year.
- The motorway not popular with local people will be built next year.
- The motorway, not popular with local people, will be built next year.

### Colons:

Used to introduce a list, result, quotation or explain the meaning of a previous statement.

- You will need to bring: a coat, wellingtons and a water bottle.
- Sally felt proud of herself: she had finished her homework.

### Semi-Colons;

- 1) Separate multiple words in a complex list which already involves commas.
- My favourite cities are: London, England; Paris, France; Venice, Italy; Toronto, Canada and Chicago, USA.
- 2) Used to separate two or more statements that are dependent on each other.
- The bomb exploded; the noise was deafening.
- The meeting was over; it was already midnight.

### Dashes -

Can be used to add extra detail or information to a sentence.

• The motorway – not popular with local people – will be built next year.

### Hyphens -

A small dash used to link two or more words which serve as a single adjective.

• Eco-action, well-known, chocolate-covered, left-handed, readymade.

### Bullet points

Break up information into separate points in a list.

Come to Spark Zoo! Here are some of our attractions:

- A large collections of lions and tigers
- Rare breeds of parrot
- The UK's biggest playground.

### Relative clause

Adds extra information about the **noun** within a sentence. The **clause** usually begins with who, that, which, whose, where, when.

- There's the cat *that* doesn't like fish.
- The boy, *who* ran quickly, tried to catch the bus.

# Rhetorical device

Something that is meant to persuade or impress the audience. It is a question or statement that doesn't expect to be answered. A rhetorical question is the most common rhetorical device.

- Why do I bother?
- Wow, it's hot outside!

### Root word

A root word is the part of the word that contains the original meaning. Suffixes and prefixes can be added to a root word to change its meaning. Compound words contain two or more root words.

- Un*happy* the root word is happy.
- *Happi*ness the root word is happy.
- Football the root words are foot and ball.

### Sentence

(see punctuation, clause, subordinate clause, subject, conjunction)

A sentence is a group of words that are connected in meaning and grammar. It begins with a capital letter and has punctuation to end it. It must include a verb.

### Simple

A simple sentence has to have a **subject** and a **verb**. It has one main clause.

- The dog barked.
- The boy played.

### Compound

A compound sentence is where two main clauses are joined together usually using a **conjunction**. They are sometimes called multiclause sentences.

- The tickets were sold on Thursday and the raffle was drawn on Friday.
- They went to the park but they did not go to the zoo.

### Complex

A complex sentence has a main clause and extra information in a **subordinate clause**.

- The cat slept while the rain fell.
- While the rain fell, the cat slept.

### Statement

Sentences which tell you something. They are usually in the same order – subject, verb, object.

- The cow eats the grass.
- We are studying plants.

### Command

To give instructions or orders and tell people what to do. Commands can end in an exclamation mark or a full stop. The **imperative verb** in the sentence gives the order.

- Look behind you!
- Put the cake in the oven.

## Question Sentences which ask you something. They usually start with a question word (who, what, where, when, why, how, which) and end with a question mark. Who ate my sandwich? What time does netball club finish? Sometimes sentences can be rearranged to make questions: They are hungry. $\rightarrow$ Are they hungry? Exclamation Sentences starting with the words 'what' or 'how' and followed by a subject, verb and any other element. What big teeth you have! How beautiful Cinderella is! Exclamations show strong feelings. They aren't always proper sentences but always have an exclamation mark. • Oh no! I don't believe it! A singular noun refers to one object, place, person or animal. Singular and The cat drank her milk. The plural of a noun means more than one object, place, person or animal. The *dogs* ran through the wood. Some words have the same form whether singular or plural. • One *sheep*/several *sheep* The variety of the English language that is used for formal speech and writing. It is not the English of any particular region and it can be spoken with any accent.

### Standard English

Standard English	<u>Non-Standard English</u>	
Go away!	Buzz off!	
I need some food.	I need grub.	
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### **Subject**

plural

The subject tells you who or what the sentence is about.

(see object, passive voice, active voice)

- The *boy* eats a peach.
- Jason eats a strawberry.
- She eats a banana.

Subject-verb	This is when the <b>verb</b> agrees with the <b>subject</b> of the sentence.
agreement	
( 1: ( 1)	Present tense
(see subject, verb)	• She plays (not she play)
	They play (not they plays)
	Past tense
	• She was playing/they are playing
	<ul> <li>I laughed/the girls laughed</li> </ul>
Subordinate	A subordinate clause doesn't make sense on its own but adds extra
clause	information to a sentence. It usually starts with a <b>conjunction</b> .
	Subordinate means less important.
(see clause,	
conjunction)	• The cat slept while the rain fell.
G CC	• Until the bell rang, the children worked hard.
Suffix	A suffix is a letter or group of letters that is added to the end of a
(see root word)	root word to modify or change its meaning.
(See root word)	• Playful
	• Fear <i>less</i>
	• Quick <i>ly</i>
Synonym	Different words which have the same or similar meaning.
(see antonym)	• talk – speak – chat
	• difficult – hard – challenging
0	• sad – unhappy – miserable
Syntax	The arrangement of words and <b>phrases</b> to create well-formed
	sentences.
	sentences.
	<ul><li>To your house we are going. (awkward syntax)</li></ul>
Tense	sentences.
	<ul> <li>To your house we are going. (awkward syntax)</li> <li>We are going to your house. (correct syntax)</li> </ul>
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### Simple past

A sentence that is in the past, you usually add 'd' or 'ed' to the verb but there are some exceptions.

- Hannah smile*d* at the baby.
- Hannah talked to her friend.
- Hannah *ran* to the park.

### Simple present

A sentence that is set in the present. Usually this is simply using the infinitive verb. We then add an 's' for he, she and it.

- I *smile* at the baby.
- Hannah talks to her friend.

### Present perfect

A sentence that is set in the present but shows an action which has now finished.

- She *has found* her book.
- She *hasn't* any money.

### Modal verbs

Modal verbs show how certain or possible something is. These are all examples of modal verbs: may, might, could, can, must, would, should, will.

- Ella should change her socks.
- I *might* go for a run later.
- You will go to school today.

### Present progressive

This is made up of the present tense of the verb 'to be' and an 'ing' ending.

- I am walking.
- They are skipping to school.

### Past progressive

This is made up of the past tense of the verb 'to be' and an 'ing' ending.

- They were watching the football match.
- I was playing the recorder.

### Word class

A word class is a group of words that can perform a similar function within a sentence. Some words can belong to more than one class.

### Word classes:

• Noun, verb, adjective, adverbs, preposition, determiner, pronoun, conjunction.

### Word families

Word families consist of groups of words that share a common root,

- extend, extent, extensive.
- act, action, react, reaction, activate.

**Higher Level Terms:** 

Higher Level Terms:	
Term Finite and	Definition and Examples
non-finite	Finite Verbs which have a past or present.
(see verbs –	• David <i>plays</i> the piano.
infinitive verbs)	• My sister spoke French.
,	Non-finite
	Verbs in any other form (infinitive, ing or ed)
	The infinitive (to -)
	• <i>To function</i> properly, the power must be switched on.
	The present participle (-ing)
	• Breathing heavily, we ran up the stairs.
	• <i>Scowling</i> fiercely, she opened the window and shouted.
	The past participle (-ed):
	• Exhausted by the climb, the hikers decided to rest.
Tona a sono a sono a 1	• Terrified, the children hid behind the curtain.
Impersonal construction	An impersonal construction is a sentence without an agent or where the agent has been replaced with the impersonal <b>pronoun</b> 'it':
	<ul> <li>Children are expected to be polite at school. (with an agent)</li> <li>Politeness is expected at school. (without an agent)</li> </ul>
Subjunctive (see verbs)	<ul> <li>Be wise and take an umbrella. (without pronoun)</li> <li>It may be wise to take an umbrella. (impersonal pronoun 'it')</li> <li>The subjunctive form is only used in formal speech and writing. It is often the <b>verb infinitive</b> without the 'to'. It is used to emphasise</li> </ul>
(SCC VCIDS)	urgency, importance, uncertainty or conditionality.
	• To join → join  The management and od that he join the common to
	<ul> <li>The manager recommended that he <i>join</i> the company.</li> <li>To stay → stay</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>He asked that the people stay quiet.</li> </ul>
	'Were' is also a kind of subjunctive when it is used with 'I' and
	'he/she/it' instead of 'was'.
	If I were you I'd accept.      I wish I were home right new.
	<ul> <li>I wish I were home right now.</li> <li>If I were chosen, I would do my best.</li> </ul>
Verb	<b>Verbs</b> can occur in different inflections which means extra letter(s) are
inflection	added to show different tenses.
(see verbs)	• The infinitive: starts with "to" → to sign
	• Present plural → they sign
	• Present singular: adding "s" → he signs
	• Past tense: adding "ed" → he signed
	• Past participle -> we have signed
	• Present participle: adding "ing" → he is signing