



Grammar workshop pack

*Monday 17th March
2014*

What is Grammar?

Grammar is the way in which words are put together to form proper sentences.

There is now a Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar test in Year 6 and it looks likely for one to be introduced for Year 2 in 2016 so it is important that both home and school are incorporating Grammar into daily work.

Some grammatical terms

Adjective - A word that describes a noun, e.g. *a big house, a cold morning.*

Adverb - A word that describes a verb, e.g. run quickly, dance happily.

Article - The words 'the, a or an' which go before a noun.

Clause - A part of a sentence that contains a verb and someone or something doing the action e.g. *I ran to the shops*

Conjunction - A word that joins two clauses or sentences, e.g. *and, but, so, after, before.*

Main clause - An important part of a sentence that would make sense on its own e.g. *I went out even though it was raining.*
I went out is the main clause because it makes sense on its own.

Noun - A word that names something, e.g. *scissors, herd, happiness.*

Proper noun - names e.g. *person, place, organisation*

Common noun - a group of similar things e.g. *books, dogs, cats*

Phrase - A small part of a sentence, usually without a verb, e.g. *I have met many famous pop stars.*

Prefix - Letters that can be put in front of a word to change its meaning, e.g. *unlock.*

Preposition - A word that tells you how things are related, e.g. in, above, before.

Pronoun - Words that can be used instead of nouns, e.g. I, you, he, it.

Subordinate clause - A less important part of a sentence which doesn't make sense on its own e.g. e.g. While you were out, I watched TV. While you were out is the subordinate clause because it doesn't make sense on its own.

Suffix - Letters that can be put after a word to change its meaning, e.g. cheer**ful**.

Verb - A doing or being word, e.g. I **run**, he **went**, you **are**.

Comma - Used to separate items in a list and to mark the beginning or end of a clause e.g. **The train, which was late, pulled into the station.**

Colon - used to introduce an idea or a list, e.g. There was only one thing to do: jump!

Semi - colon - used to separate complex items in a list or to separate independent clauses e.g. **Zach didn't enjoy playtime; he didn't like football.**

Speech marks - used to show direct speech (also called inverted commas).

"Stop!" she shouted.

Apostrophes - used to show possession, e.g. **The girl's jumper was in her bag.** Used to show omission e.g. **wouldn't, they're, I've.**

Spelling

How to help at home:

- Discuss the number of syllables
- Practice tricky words
- Practice 'Look, Say, Cover, Write, Check
- Practice using letter names not sounds
- Apply the objective to that week to an unknown word e.g. suffix 'ious' 'Can you spell delicious?'

Guess the word

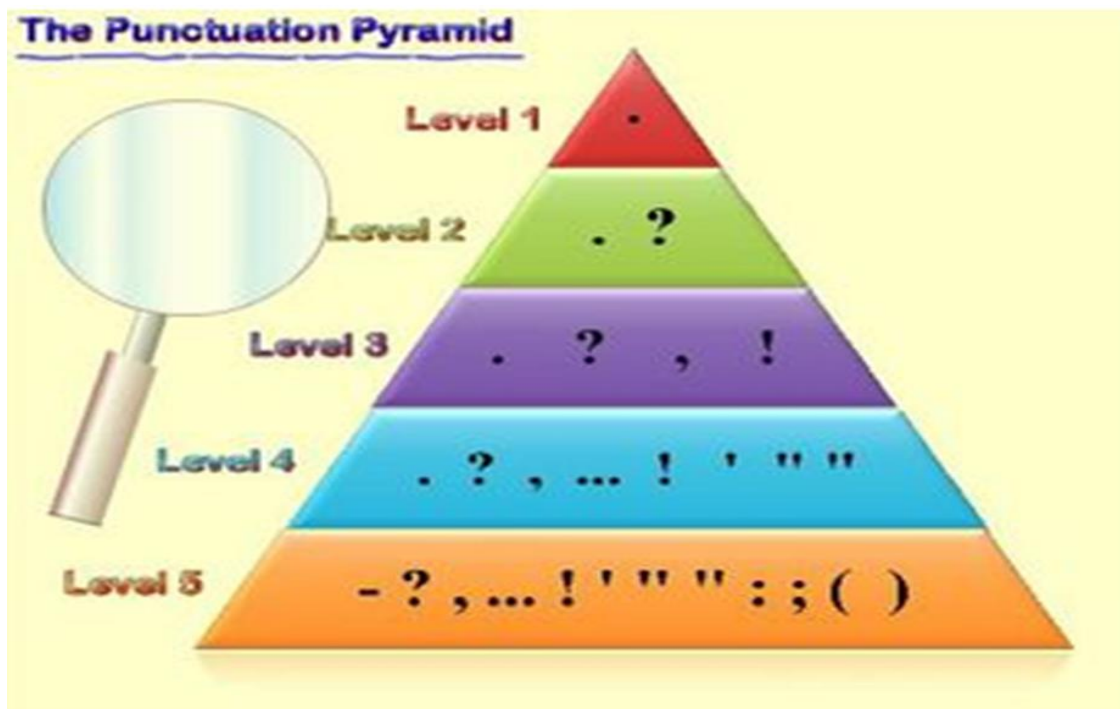


Get your child to guess the word by spelling it - you may start to notice what they are having trouble with e.g. owl spelt 'arl' - you may need to do more work on the 'ow' sound.

Punctuation



"Let's eat, Grandma!"
PUNCTUATION SAVES LIVES.



Some punctuation games:

- Notice different types of punctuation at home in reading and comment on it.
- Get your child to punctuate your shopping list
- Write incorrect sentences and get your child to correct and 'mark' them.

Grammar

Vocabulary

- Start a 'word wall' at home, picking out all of the useful adjectives that you find on adverts, in books, magazines etc
- Try using the words you have found in a sentence.
- Have a many quiz e.g. How many different words can you think of for 'said'? e.g. shouted, commanded, exclaimed
- Give your child an adjective to put into a sentence. How many different sentences can they make?
- Give your child two different words and ask them to make different sentences from them. E.g.: 'magical' and 'boy'.

Conjunctions

- Conjunctions are used to join sentences together. The simplest conjunction to use is 'and', as in: Bill went to the shops and he bought an ice-cream.
- Try to search for conjunctions in the stories you read at home. Use them in a different sentence.
- Try rearranging sentences with the conjunctions at the start. e.g. The little boy shivered, despite it being warm in the cave. - Despite it being warm in the cave, the little boy shivered.
- Give your child a conjunction and ask them to use it in a sentence.

Useful Grammar game links

http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ks2/english/spelling_grammar/

<https://learnenglishkids.britishcouncil.org/en/grammar-games>

<http://www.funenglishgames.com/grammargames.html>

<http://www.funbrain.com/grammar/>

<http://resources.woodlands-junior.kent.sch.uk/interactive/literacy2.htm>

http://www.sheppardsoftware.com/web_games_vocab.htm

