



Year 2 Grammar Glossary

Name	What's its purpose?	Examples
Adjective	<p>An adjective is a word that describes somebody or something.</p> <p>Adjectives (and adverbs) can have comparative and superlative forms. (comparatives usually end with an -er suffix)</p> <p>Superlative forms usually end with the suffix -est or most: -</p>	<p>Blue, soft, excellent, beautiful, old</p> <p>softer, older</p> <p>small - smallest big - biggest funny - funniest important - most important</p>
Adverb	<p>Adverbs give extra meaning to a verb, an adjective, another adverb or a whole sentence. Many adverbs are formed by adding -ly to an adjective but there are many adverbs which do not end in -ly. Note too that some -ly words are adjectives, not adverbs (e.g. lovely, silly, friendly).</p>	<p>E.g: quickly, slowly, fast, carefully</p>
Apostrophe (')	<p>An apostrophe is a punctuation mark used to indicate either omitted letters (Y1) or possession (Y2+)</p> <p>Omitted letters We use an apostrophe for the omitted letter(s) when a verb is contracted (shortened).</p> <p>Possession We use an apostrophe + s for the possessive form:</p>	<p>I'm (I am) who's (who is/has) They've (they have) he'd (he had/would) We're (we are) it's (it is/has) Would've (would have) she'll (she will)</p> <p>My mother's car Joe and Fiona's house The cat's tail</p>
Blend	<p>The process of combining phonemes into larger elements such as clusters, syllables and words. Also refers to a combination of two or more phonemes, particularly at the beginning and end of words.</p>	<p>spl, str, nt, pl, nd, dr</p> <p>Consonant blends are taught in Reception as part of phase 4 phonics.</p>

Name	What's its purpose?	Examples
Conjunction	<p>Coordinating conjunctions: A word used to link clauses within a sentence. For example, in the following sentences, but and if are conjunctions</p> <p>Subordinating conjunctions: These go at the beginning of a subordinate clause: We were hungry because we hadn't eaten all day. Although we'd had plenty to eat, we were still hungry. We were hungry when we got home.</p>	<p>But (children remember BOYS Or to help with this) Yet So And</p> <p>when, while, before, after, since, until, if, because, although, that</p>
Comma (,)	A comma is a punctuation mark used to help the reader by separating parts of a sentence. In Y1 children are taught to use it to separate items in a list.	I went to the shops and bought: apples, bananas, pears and grapes.
Consonant	Basic speech sound in which the breath is at least partly obstructed and which can be combined with a vowel to form a syllable.	All letters except vowels: bcdfghjklmnpqrstvwxyz
Decode	In reading, this refers to children's ability to read words - to translate the visual code of the letters into a word.	
Digraph	Two letters representing one phoneme.	There are many examples such as: Ch, sh, th
Exclamation	<p>An exclamation is an utterance expressing emotion (joy, wonder, anger, surprise, etc) and is usually followed in writing by an exclamation mark (!). Children are taught that a sentence can only be an exclamation if it starts with 'what' or 'how'. Where an exclamation mark is used in a sentence not starting with 'what' or 'how', this is an exclamatory sentence.</p>	<p>Exclamations:</p> <p>What a lovely day!</p> <p>How exciting!</p> <p>Exclamatory sentence: I can't believe it!</p>
Graphemes and Phonemes	Written representation of a letter or group of letters that make up a phoneme (sound).	The phoneme (sound) is 'ai' The graphemes that make the phoneme are: eigh, ay, a, ai, ae, a-e

Name	What's its purpose?	Examples
Homograph	Words which have the same spelling as another, but different meaning:	the calf was eating/my calf was aching; the North Pole/totem pole; he is a Pole.
Homophone	Words which have the same sound as another but different meaning or different spelling:	read/reed; pair/pear; right/write/rite.
Noun	<p>A noun is a word that denotes somebody or something.</p> <p>Proper nouns are the names of people, places, organisations, etc. These normally begin with a capital.</p> <p>Noun phrase is a wider term than 'noun'. It can refer to a single noun (money), a pronoun (it) or a group of words that functions in the same way as a noun in a sentence, for example:</p> <p>Pronoun: There are several kinds of pronoun, including personal pronouns</p>	<p>Table, chair, pencil</p> <p>St.Peter's, Ella, England</p> <p>A lot of money My younger sister A new car The best team in the world</p> <p>I/me, you, he/him, she/her, we/us, they/them, it</p>
Prefix	A prefix is a morpheme which can be added to the beginning of a word to change its meaning.	E.g: Un- Dis- In-
Punctuation	Punctuation is a way of marking text to help readers' understanding.	In Y1: Commas, full stops, apostrophe, question marks, exclamation marks
Question mark (?)	A question mark is used at the end of an interrogative sentence	Who was that? Are you leaving already?)
Segment	To break a word or part of a word down into its component phonemes	ch-ar-t c-a-t g-r-ou-n-d s-k-i-n

Name	What's its purpose?	Examples
Sentence	<p>A sentence can be simple, compound or complex.</p> <p>A simple sentence consists of one clause:</p> <p>A compound sentence has two or more clauses joined by and, or, but or so.</p> <p>The clauses are of equal weight (they are both main clauses):</p> <p>A complex sentence consists of a main clause which itself includes one or more subordinate clauses:</p>	<p>It was late.</p> <p>It was late but I wasn't tired.</p>
Singular and plural	<p>Singular forms are used to refer to one thing, person etc.</p> <p>The plural is usually marked by the ending -s and refers to more than one. Words ending with x, ch, sh usually ended with -es if it is a plural</p>	<p>cat, dog, lady, man</p> <p>cats, dogs</p> <p>matches, foxes, wishes</p>
Suffix	<p>A suffix is a morpheme which is added to the end of a word.</p>	<p>Examples:-ed, -ly, -ing</p>
Tense	<p>A tense is a verb form that most often indicates time. English verbs have two basic tenses, present and past, and each of these can be simple or continuous.</p> <p>Present past</p> <p>Present perfect past perfect</p>	<p>I play (simple) I played (simple)</p> <p>I am playing (continuous) I was playing (continuous)</p> <p>Additionally, all these forms can be perfect (with have):</p> <p>I have played (perfect) I had played (perfect)</p> <p>I have been playing I had been playing (perfect continuous)</p>
Verb	<p>A verb is a word that expresses an action, a happening, a process or a state.</p>	<p>In Y1 children are taught verbs solely as 'doing' words.</p> <p>E.g: skip, jump, draw, write, hop.</p>
Vowel	<p>A phoneme produced without audible friction or closure. Every syllable contains a vowel. A vowel phoneme may be represented by one or more letters.</p>	<p>a e i o u</p>
Word class	<p>Types of words.</p>	<p>Y2: adverb, noun, verb, adjective</p>

