



## Year 4 Grammar Glossary

Name	What's its purpose?	Examples
Adjective	An adjective describes a noun and it comes before the noun or it can come after the verb to be (I am , we are, they are, she is, it is, they were)	The pupils did some really good work.  Their work was good.
Adverb	An adverb often changes a verb. They can also change another adverb or an adjective.	He moved slowly.  He moved very slowly. (The very is changing the other adverb.)  That match was really exciting. (The adverb is telling us how exciting the match was –exciting is an adjective.)
<b>Adverbial</b>	It is a word or a phrase (group of words) used to modify a verb. Adverbs can be used as adverbials. However, there are many other word classes that can be used as adverbials.	The buses leave <b>in five minutes</b> . (preposition phrase as an adverbial as it modifies leave) She promised to see me <b>last night</b> . (noun phrase modifying see or promised depending on the meaning)  She worked <b>until she had finished</b> . (subordinate clause as an adverbial)
Apostrophe (')  <b>Apostrophe for plural possession</b>	An apostrophe can do one of two things. 1) It can show you where two words have been joined and some of the letters have been missed out.  2) It can show that someone or something owns (possesses) an object (something).  3) The possessive s' is used where there is more than one person or thing owning (possessing) the object.	1) Do not = don't (the o from not is missing and is replaced with the apostrophe).  2) The girl's name is Jane. The cat's bowl is empty. Bob's parents are here.  3) The cats' bowl is empty. (more than one cat sharing a bowl)

Capital Letter	<p>A capital letter is used to start a sentence. It is also used for names, places, months and days of the week.</p> <p>A capital is used for I and I'm.</p>	<p>This is a sentence so the t is a capital t.</p> <p>My name is James.</p> <p>We are in Copnor Primary School. Here I am! I'm six years old.</p>
Clause	<p>A clause includes a verb. Sometimes a clause can be a complete sentence.</p>	<p>It was raining. (single-clause sentence)</p> <p>It was raining but we were indoors. (two clauses joined using a coordinating conjunction)</p> <p>If you are coming to the party, please let us know. (two clauses: a subordinate clause followed by the main clause).</p>
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Comma (,)	<p>A comma is used to separate items in a list.</p> <p>They are also used after a fronted adverbial.</p> <p>Commas are also used to mark clauses.</p> <p>Commas are also used in speech.</p>	<p>I went on a picnic and I took a banana, an apple and a packet of crisps.</p> <p>Slowly, I walked home. After breakfast, I walked home.</p> <p>John, who was hungry, walked home quickly. Although she was tired, Jane still kept running.</p> <p>Jill responded, "Yes that is a good idea!"</p> <p>"There are seven," replied Bill</p>
Command	<p>These sentences tell you to do something. They sometimes have an exclamation mark.</p>	<p>Be quiet.</p> <p>Go and get it then.</p>
Conjunction	<p>A conjunction links two words or phrases (a group of words) together.</p> <p>Coordinating conjunction</p>	<p>The cat and the dog walked home. Is it that one or that one?</p>

	<p>A coordinating conjunction is used to join two words using: and, but, or.</p> <p>Subordinating conjunction Subordinating conjunctions include: when, before, after, while, so, because. These are used to introduce a subordinate clause.</p>	<p>It could come today but it might come tomorrow.</p> <p>When I am tired, I have a sit down. I have a sit down when I am tired.</p>
Consonant	<p>Most letters of the alphabet are consonants.</p> <p>You use a before words starting with these letters.</p>	<p>b,c,d,f,g,h,j,k,l,m,n,p,q,r,s,t,v,w,x,z are consonants.</p> <p>Y is a vowel and a consonant! A banana</p>
<b>Determiner</b>	<p>A determiner shows whether a noun is known or unknown.</p> <p><b>Articles</b> (the, a, an) <b>Demonstratives</b> (e.g. this, those) <b>Possessives</b> (e.g. my, your) <b>Quantifiers</b> (e.g. some, every)</p>	<p><b>The</b> cat (a specific/known cat) <b>a</b> cat (we are not sure which cat) <b>an</b> apple (Any apple but we use an rather than a because apple starts with a vowel) Is <b>this</b> the right one? That is <b>my</b> book. Here are <b>some</b> bananas.</p>
Direct Speech	<p>Direct speech is the actual words someone says.</p>	<p>"I am twelve years old," said the boy.</p>
Exclamation	<p>These sentences always end in an exclamation mark.</p>	<p>Stop! Don't do that! Hooray!</p>
<b>Fronted Adverbial</b>	<p>An adverbial used at the start of a sentence. It has a comma after it.</p>	<p><b>Later that night</b>, the moon disappeared behind a cloud. <b>Suddenly</b>, it stopped</p>
Homonym	<p>Words with the same sound and the same spelling but with different meanings</p>	<p>Trees have bark. Did you hear the dog bark?</p> <p>She leaves it outside. Trees have leaves.</p> <p>Ducks live on the river bank. I put my money in the bank.</p>
Homophone	<p>Words with the same sound but different meanings.</p>	<p>Red and read, some, sum, son, sun won, one</p>

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Inverted commas (speech marks)	These show where speech begins and where it ends. “ ”	“Hello,” said the boy. The boy said, “Hello.” “Hello,” said the boy, “how are you?”
Main clause	A sentence contains at least one clause which is not a subordinate clause (so makes sense on its own).	I always take my coat. (main clause) If I walk to the shop (subordinate clause: it does not make sense on its own. This is because we need to know why the person is walking to the shop).  If I walk to the shop, I always take my coat. (The main clause is in bold).
Noun	A noun is the name of something.  Nouns made by compounding Some nouns are made by putting two or more words together to make a new one:  super + man = superman  white + board = whiteboard	Cat is a common noun.  Flock is a collective noun. It names a group of things.  Portsmouth is a proper noun. Proper nouns have a capital letter.  Kindness is an abstract noun. You cannot touch an abstract noun. It names an idea or a quality in a person.  Table is a concrete noun. You can touch a concrete noun.
Noun phrase	This is where detail is added to describe the noun.	the beautiful butterfly Adult foxes
<b>Expanded Noun Phrases</b>	This is where a noun or noun phrase is expanded to provide more detail.	

Past tense	This is what happened. It is shown by using the past verb.	He walked home. She liked the film.
Phrase	See noun phrase and preposition phrase.	<b>The strict teacher</b> expanded to: The strict <b>maths</b> teacher with curly hair.
Plural	There is more than one. It is shown with an s, es, ves or ies. Be careful as there are a number of irregular plurals e.g. sheep, children and cacti.	cats bananas babies wishes
Prefix	A prefix is added to the front of a word and it turns it into another word.	Un + happy = unhappy Anti + freeze = antifreeze Auto + graph = autograph
Preposition	These link the noun or noun phrase to some other words in the sentence. They often describe: place (where the noun is); or time (at, in, on, before, last , next) or cause	The book is over there. Make sure your book is in the bag.  The book is due back next week.  She was sent home because of her cold. She will be back from America in two weeks. (Two prepositions in a sentence!)
Preposition phrase	A preposition phrase includes a preposition in it.	She waved to her mother. She was sent home because of her cold.  The book is due back next week.
Present tense.	This is happening now. It is shown by using the present verb.	He walks home.  She likes the film.
Pronoun	A pronoun replaces a noun.	John walked home and then he opened the fridge. It was empty.  The he refers to John, while the it refers to the refrigerator.

<b>Possessive pronoun</b>	Possessive pronouns are used to refer to a specific person/people or thing/things belonging to a person/people (and sometimes belonging to an animal/animals or thing/things). They can be the subject or the object	Look at these pictures. <b>Mine</b> is the big one. (subject) Do you like <b>mine</b> ? (object)  <b>Yours</b> is good. <b>His</b> is amazing. <b>Our</b> car is over there.
Punctuation	A capital letter, full stops, question marks, exclamation marks and spaces between words are examples of punctuation.	. ? ! , " "
Question	Asks someone something. They always end in a question mark	Who are you? What time is dinner? How old are you? Can I come round to your house for tea
Singular	There is only one.	cat banana baby wish

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Statement	This is a form of sentence where a fact is shared.	You are my friend. It is at ten o'clock.
Subordinate clause	The two clauses are unequal and one is subordinate to the other clause. They cannot stand on their own and make sense, whereas the main clause they are connected to can.	Whenever I a hungry, I eat a banana. Whenever I am hungry. (On its own it does not make sense unless it is an answer to a question: this is a subordinate clause) I eat a banana. (this makes sense on its own: it is the main clause)
Suffix	A suffix is an 'ending' used to turn one word into another word.	Call + ed = called Teach + er = teacher Kind + ness = kindness
Verb	A verb is sometimes called a 'doing' word. They often show you what action is happening. However, many verbs name feelings rather than actions. Also, some nouns name an action!	Brian walked home. He lives in Portsmouth. She loves Portsmouth. (This is a feeling.)

Progressive verb	This is a way to show that something is happening now. It uses the verb to be as well as the verb used to describe what is happening. The verb to be changes: I am, he/she/it is, they/we are.	She is drumming. They are walking. I am singing.
Present perfect verb	Use have and the past tense form of a verb to create a verb in the present perfect	I have done so much in my life. He has already arrived in Spain
<b><u>Future tense</u></b>	A reference to what is happening in the future, involves the use of a present tense verb. There are many ways of showing it is in the future rather than now	He will leave tomorrow. He may leave tomorrow. He leaves tomorrow. He is going to leave tomorrow.
Vowel	There are only a few vowels.  Use an before a word starting with a vowel	a, e , i, o , u are vowels.  Y is a vowel and a consonant!  An egg, an apple
Word family	A word family is a group of words joined together because they are from a similar root word/ have a similar meaning.	Teach – teacher Exit –extent- extensive Electric -electrical-electrician Solve –solution – solver –dissolve – insoluble