

Year 1 Grammar Glossary

Name	What's its purpose?	Examples
Adjective	An adjective is a word that describes somebody or something.	Blue, soft, excellent, beautiful, old
	Adjectives (and adverbs) can have comparative and superlative forms.	softer, older
	(comparatives usually end with an -er suffix)	small - smallest
	Superlative forms usually end with the suffix -	big - biggest
	est or most: -	funny - funniest
		important - most important
Apostrophe (')	An apostrophe is a punctuation mark used to indicate either omitted letters (Y1) or possession (Y2+) Omitted letters	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)
	We use an apostrophe for the omitted letter(s) when a verb is contracted (shortened).	Would've (would have) she'll (she will)
Blend	The process of combining phonemes into larger elements such as clusters, syllables and words.	spl, str, nt, pl, nd, dr
	Also refers to a combination of two or more phonemes, particularly at the beginning and end of words.	Consonant blends are taught in Reception as part of phase 4 phonics.
Compound word	A word made up of two other words	football, headrest, playground, broomstick
Conjunction	Coordinating conjunctions: A word used to link clauses within a sentence. For example, in the following sentences, but and if are conjunctions	 But (children remember BOYS Or to help with this) Yet So And
	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.	when, while, before, after, since, until, if, because, although, that
C ()	We were hungry when we got home.	
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.

Name	What's its purpose?	Examples
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	An exclamation is an utterance expressing emotion (joy, wonder, anger, surprise, etc) and is	Exclamations:
	usually followed in writing by an exclamation mark (!) .	What a lovely day!
	Children are taught that a sentence can only be an exclamation if it starts with 'what' or	How exciting!
	'how'. Where an exclamation mark is used in a sentence not starting with 'what' or 'how',	Exclamatory sentence:
	this is an exclamatory sentence.	I can't believe it!
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
Noun	A noun is a word that denotes somebody or something. In Y1 children are not required to learn example of proper nouns etc.	Table, chair, pencil
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

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Sentence	In Y1 children are taught a	The little girl went to the
	sentence needs to make	shop.
	sense, contain a capital	
	letter, and end with . ! ?	
Singular and plural	Singular forms are used to	cat, dog, lady, man
	refer to one thing, person	
	etc.	
	The plural is usually marked	cats, dogs
	by the ending -s and refers	
	to more than one. Words	
	ending with x, ch, sh usually	
	ended with -es if it is a	matches, foxes, wishes
	plural	
Suffix	A suffix is a morpheme	Examples:
	which is added to the end of	-ed
	a word.	-ly
		-ing
Verb	A verb is a word that	In Y1 children are taught
	expresses an action, a	verbs solely as 'doing'
	happening, a process or a	words.
	state.	E.g: skip, jump, draw, write,
	A phonomo producod	hop. aeiou
Vowel	A phoneme produced without audible friction or	
vower	closure. Every syllable	
	contains a vowel. A vowel	
	phoneme may be	
	represented by one or more letters.	
Word class		In V1 childron are taught
Word class	Types of words.	In Y1 children are taught:
		noun, verb, adjective