



Reception 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>
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>
Decode	<p>In reading, this refers to children's ability to read words - to translate the visual code of the letters into a word.</p>	
Digraph	<p>Two letters representing one phoneme.</p>	<p>There are many examples such as: Ch, sh, th</p>
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:</p> <p>I can't believe it!</p>
Graphemes and Phonemes	<p>Written representation of a letter or group of letters that make up a phoneme (sound).</p>	<p>The phoneme (sound) is 'ai'</p> <p>The graphemes that make the phoneme are: eigh, ay, a, ai, ae, a-e</p>
Punctuation	<p>Punctuation is a way of marking text to help readers' understanding.</p>	<p>In Reception children will use full stops, but will come across question marks and exclamation marks in their reading. . ? !</p>

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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
Sentence	In Reception, children are taught a sentence needs to make sense, contain a capital letter, and end with . ! ?	The little girl went to the shop.