

Year 6

Grammar Terminology

Subjunctive Form

The subjunctive is a verb form or mood used to express things that could or should happen. It is used to express wishes, hopes, commands, demands or suggestions. E.g. If I were you, I'd get the washing up done.

Hyphens

A hyphen links words or parts of words. They give clarity to words with some awkward letter combinations, e.g. co-operate or re-sign. They show where two words link to create a new word or informal phrase e.g. hot-pink, well-to-do.

Subject and Object

The subject is the person, noun phrase, pronoun or thing which does the verb in a clause.

Wednesday is my favourite day.

The dog dropped his toy into the hole.

Are you coming to the sleepover?

The object is the person, noun phrase, pronoun or thing which usually comes directly after the verb

Synonym and Antonym

A synonym is a word or phrase with the same or similar meaning to another. E.g. crouch/squat.

Antonyms are words with opposite meanings e.g. old/young

Modal verbs

Modal verbs add meaning to the main verb. Modal verbs only have a single form, so you don't add -ing or -s to them.

Some common modal verbs are:
Will, shall, should, can, could, must.

Relative pronoun/ Relative clause

Relative pronouns (who, which, where, that, when) introduce a relative clause. They refer back to a noun or clause that we already know.

A relative clause is a special type of subordinate clause which adds extra information to another noun or clause.

Active and Passive Voice

When a sentence is in the active voice, the pattern is subject- verb- object. The subject of the verb is more important.

When a sentence is in the passive voice, the pattern is usually object- verb- (subject). The object of the verb is more important.

Parenthesis

We use parenthesis to add extra information to a sentence which is already grammatically correct without it. We can use brackets, dashes or commas to separate the extra information from the main sentences.

E.g. Jack, who has a sister called Jill, went to fetch some water.

Semi-colons, colons and Dashes

Semicolons are used to create a **break in a sentence**, with a pause halfway between a comma and a full stop.

I just had a big meal; however I am still hungry!

Colons are used at **the end of a clause** to show that an answer, elaboration or explanation follows.

The night was grim: it was cold and rainy.

A dash creates a break in a sentence. It can show a sharp break between two main clauses. E.g. I went to the house and knocked on the door- what was I thinking?

Ellipses

An ellipsis is used to show an omission of a word or words from a text.