

Vocabulary Grammar and Punctuation Terminology

Noun

A word that names a person, place, thing, or condition. A noun may be the subject of a sentence or the object of a verb or preposition.

In the sentence, "Ayan likes to eat popcorn at the cinema," "Ayan" "popcorn," and "cinema" are nouns.

Noun Phrase

A noun phrase includes a noun and the modifiers which distinguish it.

If dog is a noun, a noun phrase is a way of giving more information about the dog: That dog, the dog on the sofa, Uncle Eric's dog.



Statement

Something stated in words.

The primary school put out a statement about their new school uniform.

Conjunction

A conjunction links two clauses together in a sentence.

Apostrophe

An apostrophe is used to show where one or more letters or numbers have been left out. "Wouldn't" for "would not" and "'87" for "1987" use apostrophes this way. It is also used to show possession. "Susan's clothes" and "Charlie's bike" use apostrophes this way.

Question

A sentence that asks for a reply.

Did you take my apple?
How long did it take you to get to school?
What did you get for your birthday?



Exclamation

An exclamation is a sentence beginning with 'What' or 'How'. It is a full sentence, including a verb, which ends with an exclamation mark.

What a dangerous mountain to climb!

How kind of him to do that!

Compound

Compound words are made up of two or more different words to make a new one:

Police + man = policeman
Dining + table = dining-table
Hair + cut = haircut

Suffix

A letter or group of letters added to the end of a word to make a new word with a slightly different meaning. The "ed" in "wanted" is a suffix.



Command

To order or instruct.

She commanded him to leave the building.

Adjective

A word that describes or modifies a noun or pronoun. In the sentence, "It was a hard test," the word "hard" is an adjective.

Adverb

A word that describes or modifies a verb, adjective, or other adverb. Adverbs are also used to modify a whole sentence.

In the sentence "Unfortunately, she spoke so slowly that most of the audience was very bored," the words "unfortunately," "slowly," and "very" are adverbs.

Verb

An action word. Verbs usually have different forms to express tense, voice, mood, and number. "Read," "blew," "drives," "seemed," and "skip" are examples of verbs.

Tense

The aspect of verbs that shows when an action takes place. Verbs can be in past, present, or future tense: Played (past tense), playing (present tense) and to play (future tense).

Comma

A comma is used to separate words, phrases, or other parts of a sentence or list, or to show a pause in speech: "I went to the market and bought eggs, chicken, milk and cheese."