Mawsley Community Primary School

SPAG Features Explained

Feature	Definition	Example
abstract noun	An **abstract noun** is a feeling or concept that you cannot touch.	love happiness education
adverbial phrase	A phrase is a small group of words that does not contain a verb. An **adverbial phrase** is built around an adverb and the words that surround it. This can be used anywhere within a sentence but when they are used at the start of a sentence, a comma must follow.	very slowly, as fast as possible. **In a flash,** the boy hid from the monster.
adjective	An **adjective** is a word used to **describe** and give more information about a noun, which could be a person, place or object.	pretty big blue The **little** girl had **bright** eyes.
adverb	An **adverb** is a word which modifies a verb, which means that it tells you how, when, where or why something is being done. This can be used anywhere within a sentence but when they are used at the start of a sentence, a comma must follow (fronted adverb).	quickly silently aggressively The children waited **peacefully** in the line. **Peacefully,** the children waited in the line.

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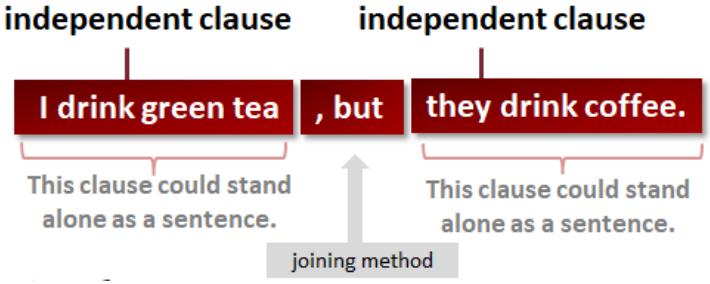
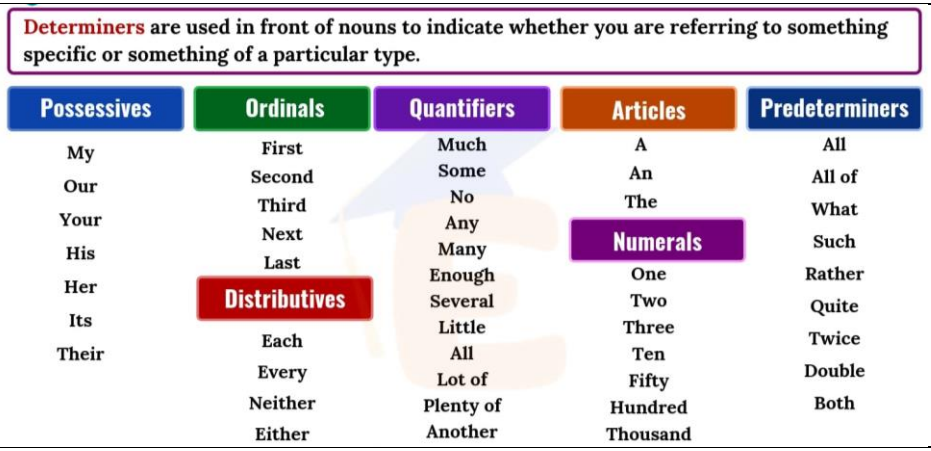
Apostrophes for possession	**Apostrophes** are punctuation marks that can be used for two different reasons. Apostrophes for possession show that one person/thing owns or is a member of something. They can be used to show when multiple persons/things owns something. More guidance can be found at https://grammar.yourdictionary.com/punctuation/apostrophe-rules.html	The **cat's** collar was blue. The **child's** toy was old. The **cats'** bowls were full of water. The children's toys were old.
Apostrophes for contraction	**Apostrophes** are punctuation marks that can be used for two different reasons. Apostrophe for contrcations are used to shorten words. The **apostrophe** is always placed where the letter has been removed	it is = it's could have = could've did not = didn't **They're** playing together.
Articles	**Articles** are words which tell us whether a noun is general (any noun) or specific. There are three articles: 'the' is a **definite article** and 'a' and 'an' are **indefinite articles**.	the a an He waited **an** hour.
complex sentence	A **complex sentence** is formed when you join a main clause and a subordinate clause with a connective.	When the cake is brown, take it out of the oven.

		By using the connective 'when' it has meant that the main clause and the subordinate clause can go together in a sentence to for a complex sentence.
compound sentence	A **compound sentence** is formed by joining two main clauses with a connective.	 Both parts of the sentence makes sense on their own.
concrete noun	A **concrete noun** is something you can touch, such as a person, an animal, a place or a thing (think objects). Concrete nouns can be common nouns (man, city, film) or proper nouns (Mr Edwards, London (think about your feet touching the place)).	book child Mawsley The **boy** giggled loudly.
connective	A **connective** is a word that joins one part of a text to another	because and however as well as I would love to have a dog **but** my mum won't let me.

determiner	A **determiner** is a word that introduces a noun and identifies it in detail. Determiners can be articles (a, an, the), demonstratives (this, that), possessives (your, his), quantifiers (some, many), numbers (six, sixty).	
embedded clause	An **embedded clause** is a clause **used in the middle of another clause**. It is usually marked by commas. It is used to add more information to a sentence.	My bike**, which is broken,** is very old and dusty.
Expanded noun phrase	An **expanded noun phrase** is a **phrase** made up of a two or more adjectives to describe a **noun** - a comma must be used to separate the two adjectives.	The **crunch, red apple** was very tasty.

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<table>
<tr>
<td>Fronted adverbials</td>
<td><u>Fronted adverbials</u> are words or phrases at the beginning of a sentence, used like <u>adverbs</u> to describe the action that follows.</td>
<td>
<table>
<tr><th>Time</th><th>Frequency</th><th>Place</th><th>Manner</th><th>Degree</th></tr>
<tr>
<td>Afterwards,
Already,
Always,
Immediately,
Last month,
Now,
Soon,
Yesterday,
Today,
Tomorrow,
Next year,
In January,
On Tuesday,
In the morning,
After a while,
As soon as she could,
Before long,
All of a sudden,
In the blink of an eye,
Just then,
Eventually,
Later,</td>
<td>Often,
Again,
Daily,
Weekly,
Fortnightly,
Yearly,
Sometimes,
Rarely,
Every second,
Twice a year,
Once a minute,
Once,
Once or twice,
Three times,
Constantly,
Regularly,
Frequently,
Infrequently,
Occasionally,
Rarely,
Never in my life,
Never before,</td>
<td>Above the clouds,
Below the sea,
Here,
Outside,
Over there,
There,
Under the ground,
Upstairs,
In the distance,
Between the sea and the sky,
Everywhere she looked,
Around the tent,
Back at the house,
Nearby,
Down by the cliffs,
Behind the shed,
In the wooden box,
Over my bed,
Somewhere near here,
Far away,
Wherever they went,
North of here,</td>
<td>Badly,
Slowly,
Happily,
Awkwardly,
Bravely,
Like a ... ,
As quick as a flash,
As fast as he could,
Without a sound,
Without warning,
Unexpectedly,
Unfortunately,
Suddenly,
Mysteriously,
Frantically,
Anxiously,
Courageously,
Silently,
Curiously,
Nervously,
Rapidly,
Carefully,</td>
<td>Almost unbelievably,
Much admired,
Nearly asleep,
Quite understandably,
Really happily,
Perhaps,
Maybe,
Just arrived,
Certainly amused,
Obviously angry,
Definitely confused,
Completely exhausted,
Barely alive,
Hardly out of breath,
Decidedly unimpressed,
Perfectly confident,
Positively trembling with excitement,
Purely practically,
Somewhat flustered,
Utterly joyous,
Totally overwhelmed,</td>
</tr>
</table>
</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fronted adverbs</td>
<td>Fronted adverbs are adverbs that are used at the start of a sentence. The adverb must be followed by a comma.</td>
<td><u>Carefully,</u> the girl opened up the presents.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homophones</td>
<td><u>Homophones</u> are words that sound the same but have different meanings. Some homophones are pronounced the same way and spelled the same way but have different meanings; others are pronounced the same way but are spelled differently and have different meanings.</td>
<td>know, no

their, there, they're

meet, meat</td>
</tr>
</table>

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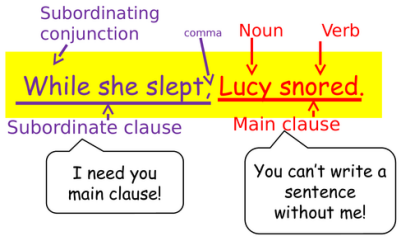
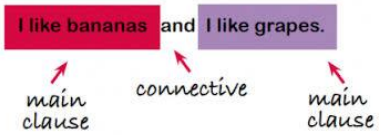
imperative verb	An **imperative verb** is one that tells someone to do something, so that the sentence it is in becomes an order or command. Think about being really bossy – they are bossy words.	 **Imperative Verbs** hold wash chop draw brush cut place rinse slice fold put peel tidy stir pour sort measure mix order bake take play sprinkle slice go add spread
Main clause or independent clause	A main clause is a clause that can form a complete sentence (it makes sense on its own).	 
modal verb	A **modal verb** is a special type of verb which changes or affects other verbs in a sentence. Modal verbs are used to show the level of possibility, indicate ability, show obligation or give permission.	will would should could may can shall must might I **will** go to the party.

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noun	A **noun** is a naming word. It is a thing, a person, an animal or a place. Nouns can be common, proper, abstract or collective.	Toy Boy England Sadness
noun phrase	A phrase is a small group of words that does not contain a verb. A **noun phrase** includes one noun as well as words that describe it, for example: the red shoe.	The **beautiful flower** blossomed.
Parenthesis	**Parenthesis** is a word, phrase, or clause inserted into a sentence to add extra, subordinate or clarifying information. Brackets and dashes are also known as parentheses and usually used to show parenthesis.	He finally answered **(**after taking five minutes to think**)** that he did not understand the question. He finally answered **-** after taking five minutes to think **-** that he did not understand the question.
personal pronoun	A **personal pronoun** is a word which can be used instead of a person, place or thing.	I, you, he, she, it, we, they, me, him, her, us and them
plural	A **plural** word indicates there is more than one noun.	cats children wolves chairs
prefix	A **prefix** is a string of letters that are added to the beginning of a root word, changing its meaning.	**dis**appear **pro**active **mis**place
Prepositions	**Prepositions** are linking words in a sentence. We use prepositions to explain where things are in time or space.	before after into

		under The bottle was **on** the table.
Prepositional phrases	A phrase is a small group of words that does not contain a verb. **Prepositional phrases** contain a preposition.	on the mat, in the morning, under the chair, during the film.
pronoun	A **pronoun** is a word used to replace a noun.	he, she, it, they **She** was amazing at football.
proper noun	A **proper noun** identifies a particular person, place, or thing. Proper nouns always start with a capital letter.	James or Brazil or Monday or Glasgow
question	A **question** is a type of sentence that we ask or write to gain further information from a person or people responding. A question is always followed by a question mark.	What time is it?
relative clause	A **relative clause** is a type of **subordinate clause that adapts, describes or modifies a noun by using a relative pronoun** (who, that or which).	Rachel liked the new chair**, which was very comfortable.** Tom**, who was very good at sports**, won lots of competitions.
root word	A **root word** is a basic word with no prefix or suffix added to it. By adding prefixes and suffixes to a root word we can change its meaning.	mis**behave**

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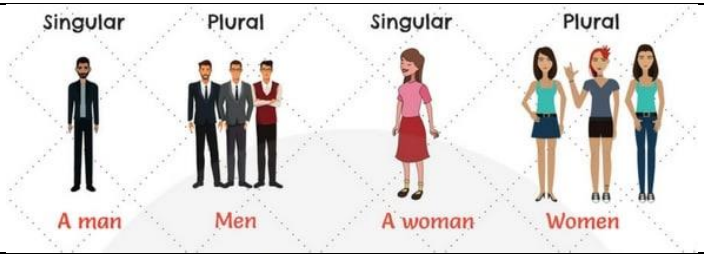
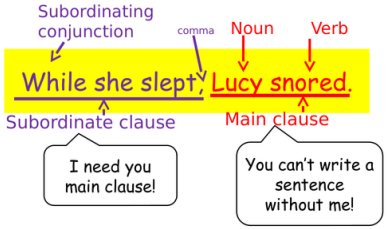
singular	When a noun is **singular**, it means there is only one person, place or object.	
subordinate clause	A **subordinate clause** needs to be attached to a main clause because it cannot make sense on its own, although it contains a subject and a verb.	
suffix	A **suffix** is a string of letters that go at the end of a word, changing or adding to its meaning. Suffixes can show if a word is a noun, an adjective, an adverb or a verb.	argu**ment** sad**ness** bigg**est**
Time connectives	**Time connectives** are words or phrases which tell the reader when something is happening. They can also be called temporal connectives.	**first, last, next, then, finally, eventually, this evening, last week, after a while, soon afterwards, meanwhile**
Time openers	Time openers are time connectives that are at the start of the sentence. The must be followed by a comma.	First, I went to the shop. After lunch, I played with my dog.
verb	A verb is a word used to describe an action, state, or occurrence	dancing slide watch