




# KS2 Pupil Glossary

**Key for definitions:** **Bold** words are examples. Underlined words can be found in this Glossary. *Italic* words are important to the explanation.

TERM	DEFINITION
<p><b>Active voice</b></p>	<p>The active voice is when the <u>subject</u> of the sentence 'does' the <u>verb</u>.</p> <p>For example: '<b>The dog chased the cat.</b>'</p> <p>The dog is the subject and it did the chasing, so this sentence is active.</p> 
<p><b>Adjective</b></p>	<p>An adjective is a describing word that adds detail to a <u>noun</u>.</p> <p>In '<b>the young girl</b>', the noun is '<b>girl</b>'. The adjective is '<b>young</b>', as it tells you more about the girl.</p>
<p><b>Adverb</b></p>	<p>An adverb is a describing word that adds detail to a <u>verb</u>, an <u>adjective</u> or another adverb.</p> <p>It can tell you <i>how</i>, <i>where</i> or <i>when</i> something happens.</p> <p>For example, '<i>Then</i>, he ran <i>upstairs</i>, <i>quickly</i>.'</p> <p>The adverb '<b>then</b>' describes <i>when</i> he ran. The adverb '<b>quickly</b>' describes <i>how</i> he ran. The adverb '<b>upstairs</b>' describes <i>where</i> he ran.</p>



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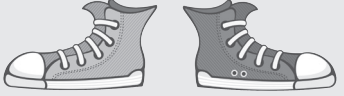
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<b>Adverbial</b>	<p>An adverbial is a word, a <u>phrase</u> or a <u>clause</u> that acts as an <u>adverb</u>.</p> <p>It can tell you <i>how, where</i> or <i>why</i> something happens.</p> <p>For example, '<b><i>After the film</i>, Joe yawned.</b>'</p> <p>The phrase '<b>after the film</b>' describes <i>when</i> Joe yawned.</p>
<b>Agent</b>	<p>The agent is the thing 'doing' the verb.</p> <p>In '<b>the dog chased the cat</b>', the dog is the agent as it is <i>doing</i> the chasing.</p> <p>In '<b>the cat was chased by the dog</b>', the dog is still the agent, as it is still the one <i>doing</i> the chasing.</p>
<b>Ambiguity</b>	<p>Ambiguity is when meaning is unclear. If something is <i>ambiguous</i>, it can mean more than one thing.</p> <p>For example: '<b>Miss Sengupta told Jill off. She was very upset.</b>'</p> <p>In this last sentence, it is unclear whether it is Miss Sengupta or Jill who is upset!</p>



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<p><b>Antonym</b></p>	<p>Antonyms are words that have opposite meanings.</p> <p>For example, '<b>love</b>' and '<b>hate</b>' are antonyms.</p>
<p><b>Apostrophe</b> ,</p>	<p>Apostrophes can be used in two ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- They can show where letters are missing, usually where two words have been joined together. For example, '<b>don't</b>' instead of '<b>do not</b>'.</li><li>- They can show who owns something (when they are called <i>possessive apostrophes</i>).</li></ul> <p>For example, '<b>Tom's shoes</b>'.</p> 
<p><b>Brackets</b> ( )</p>	<p>Brackets are punctuation marks that show that the words inside them are not as important as the rest of the sentence. Instead, they give <i>extra information</i> (see <u>Parenthesis</u>).</p> <p>Brackets are <i>always</i> used in pairs, with an opening bracket at the beginning of the extra information and a closing bracket at the end.</p>



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<b>Bullet points</b>	<p>Bullet points organise information into a list, with each bullet point starting on a new line.</p> <p>The big, bold dots are sometimes known as ‘bullets’ and the words or sentences following them are sometimes known as the ‘points’.</p>
<b>Cause</b>	<p>Cause is <i>why</i> something happens.</p> <p>For example, ‘<b>because it was raining</b>’.</p>



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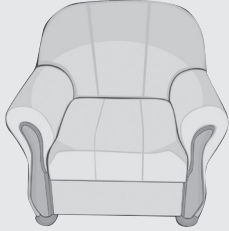
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<b>Clause</b>	<p>A clause is a part of a sentence that contains a <u>verb</u>. It can help to think of it like a section of meaning.</p> <p>For example, look at this sentence:</p> <p><b>'I packed my bag so that I would be ready to go.'</b></p> <p>This contains two clauses: <b>'I packed my bag'</b> and <b>'so that I would be ready to go'</b>.</p> <p>You can often swap clauses around in a sentence without changing the meaning. For example: <b>'So that I would be ready to go, I packed my bag.'</b> Try doing this to check where the clauses are.</p> <p>For more about clauses, look up <u>Main clause</u>, <u>Subordinate Clause</u> and <u>Relative Clause</u> in this Glossary.</p>
<b>Cohesion</b>	<p>Cohesion is what makes a piece of writing fit together well.</p> <p>We link together the ideas in our writing with things like <u>connectives</u>, <u>adverbials</u> and <u>pronouns</u> to give it cohesion.</p>



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<b>Colon</b> :	<p>A colon is a punctuation mark used to introduce a list, a quotation, an example or an explanation.</p> <p>For example: '<b>It was cold in the room: the window had been open all day.</b>'</p>
<b>Comma</b> ,	<p>A comma is a punctuation mark used to separate parts of a sentence, including items in a list and different <u>clauses</u>.</p>
<b>Compound word</b>	<p>A compound word is made from two smaller words.</p> <p>For example, '<b>armchair</b>' is a compound word made from the words '<b>arm</b>' and '<b>chair</b>'.</p> 



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## Conjunction

A conjunction is a word that links words, phrases and clauses together inside a sentence.

In '**it was always cold *or* rainy**', the conjunction '**or**' links the words '**cold**' and '**rainy**'.

In '**with bright eyes *and* red cheeks, she ran into the room**', the conjunction '**and**' links the phrases '**bright eyes**' and '**red cheeks**'.

In '**she was tired *but* she wanted to stay up**', the conjunction '**but**' links the two clauses together.



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<b>Connecting Adverb</b>	<p>A connecting adverb is an <u>adverb</u> that can connect a sentence to the one before.</p> <p>For example, '<b>It was too hot to run. <i>Moreover</i>, they were all too tired.</b>' The connecting adverb '<b>moreover</b>' links the two sentences.</p> <p>Sometimes, you can link two <u>clauses</u> in a sentence with a connecting adverb, too. To do this, you need to use a <u>semicolon</u> – never a <u>comma</u>!</p> <p>For example, '<b>It was raining; <i>therefore</i>, we could not go out to play.</b>' The connecting adverb '<b>therefore</b>' links the two clauses.</p>
<b>Connective</b>	<p>'Connective' is an informal name for words that can be used to link the ideas across different <u>clauses</u>.</p> <p><u>Conjunctions</u> and <u>connecting adverbs</u> are types of connective.</p>





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<b>Consonant</b>	<p>'Consonant' can mean:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- A sound that you use your lips, tongue or teeth to make, when speaking.</li><li>- A letter that (usually) makes a consonant sound when read aloud. These are all the letters that are not <u>vowels</u>.</li></ul>
<b>Contraction</b>	<p>Contraction is when two words are put together and letters are removed to make one word. An <u>apostrophe</u> is used to show where the letters are missing.</p> <p>For example, '<b>don't</b>' instead of '<b>do not</b>'.</p>
<b>Dash</b> —	<p>A dash can be used instead of a <u>colon</u> or a <u>semicolon</u> in informal writing.</p> <p>Dashes can also be put around <u>parenthesis</u> in informal writing.</p> <p>A dash is longer than a <u>hyphen</u> and always has a space before and after it.</p>
<b>Definition</b>	<p>A definition is an explanation of the exact meaning of a word.</p>



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<p><b>Derivation or Derivative</b></p>	<p>Derivation is when you make a new word from a <u>root word</u>, usually by adding <u>prefixes</u> or <u>suffixes</u>. The new word is called a derivative.</p> <p>For example, the <u>adverb</u> '<b>gladly</b>' is a derivative of the <u>adjective</u> '<b>glad</b>'.</p>
<p><b>Determiner</b></p>	<p>A determiner is a word, like '<b>the</b>', '<b>a</b>', '<b>this</b>', '<b>that</b>' and so on, that comes before a noun. It helps to make the noun more specific.</p> <p>For example, instead of '<b>book</b>', we can say '<b>that book</b>' so that we know which book we mean.</p> <p><u>Possessive pronouns</u>, like '<b>his</b>' and '<b>my</b>', are determiners.</p> <p>Numbers can also be determiners, such as '<b>four mice</b>'.</p>
<p><b>Dialect</b></p>	<p>A dialect is a way of speaking that is only used in a particular area or region.</p>
<p><b>Dictionary</b></p>	<p>A dictionary is a book that lists the words of a language in alphabetical order, along with their meanings.</p>



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<b>Direct speech</b>	<p>Direct speech is what a person in a piece of writing actually says. It always goes inside <u>inverted commas</u>. For example, ‘<b>He said, “I like ice cream.”</b>’.</p> <p>Don’t confuse this with <i>indirect speech</i>, which is when the writer reports what a person said, e.g. ‘<b>He said that he liked ice cream.</b>’</p> 
<b>Ellipsis or Elision</b>	<p>Ellipsis, or elision, means missing out a word or <u>phrase</u>, so that the text still makes sense.</p> <p>For example, instead of ‘<b>I can whistle but you can’t whistle</b>’, you can simply say ‘<b>I can whistle but you can’t</b>’.</p> <p>Sometimes, you can use three dots (...) to show where words or sentences are missing. This is also called ellipsis and can be used to create suspense in your writing.</p>
<b>Etymology</b>	<p>Etymology is the history of a word and how it has changed over time.</p>



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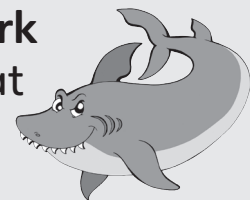
<b>Formal language</b>	<p>Formal language is language that is suitable for formal purposes.</p> <p>It uses <u>Standard English</u> rather than <u>slang</u> or <u>dialect</u> and uses more precise or polite words.</p> <p>Formal language avoids <u>contraction</u> and <u>personal language</u> or opinions.</p>
<b>Fronted</b>	<p>When a word or <u>phrase</u> that normally comes <i>after</i> a <u>verb</u> is put at the beginning of its <u>clause</u> or sentence, we say that it has been fronted.</p> <p>For example, '<b>Suddenly, he ran off.</b>' Here, the <u>adverb</u> comes before the verb, at the beginning of the sentence, so it is fronted.</p>
<b>Grammatical terminology</b>	<p>Grammatical terminology means technical words that can be used to talk about language.</p>
<b>Guide words</b>	<p>Guide words are the words that appear at the top of each page in a <u>dictionary</u> or <u>thesaurus</u>. They show the first and last words on the page.</p>



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<b>Head word</b>	A head word is a word in a <u>thesaurus</u> that starts a new group of <u>synonyms</u> . It will usually be in bold.
<b>Homophones</b>	Homophones are words that sound the same but mean different things. For example, ' <b>two</b> ' is a number but ' <b>too</b> ' means ' <b>as well</b> '.
<b>Hyphen</b> -	A hyphen is a punctuation mark used to make the meaning clear in some <u>compound words</u> and <u>phrases</u> . For example, instead of ' <b>we saw a <i>man eating</i> shark at the aquarium</b> ', we could write ' <b>we saw a <i>man-eating</i> shark at the aquarium</b> '. This shows that we saw a shark that eats men, not a man eating a shark!
<b>Imperative verb</b>	A type of <u>verb</u> that gives an instruction or a command. For example: ' <b><i>Sit</i> in your chair and <i>read</i> this book.</b> '





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<b>Inverted commas</b> or <b>Speech marks</b> “ ” / ‘ ’	Inverted commas (also called ‘speech marks’) are a type of punctuation mark that goes around <u>direct speech</u> .
<b>Lead-in phrase</b> or <b>Lead-in sentence</b>	<p>A lead-in phrase or sentence is used to introduce a list of <u>bullet points</u>. It usually ends in a <u>colon</u>.</p> <p>For example, ‘<b>I need to buy:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>eggs,</b></li><li>• <b>bread,</b></li><li>• <b>milk.</b></li></ul> <p>‘<b>I need to buy:</b>’ is the lead-in phrase.</p>
<b>Main clause</b>	<p>A main clause is a <u>clause</u> that could be used as a complete sentence on its own.</p> <p>For example, ‘<b>I eat fruit</b>’ is a main clause in the sentence ‘<b>I eat fruit when I am hungry.</b>’</p> 



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<b>Modal verb</b>	<p>Modal verbs are <u>verbs</u> that come before another verb to show how possible, likely or necessary it is.</p> <p>Common modal verbs are '<b>will</b>', '<b>would</b>', '<b>can</b>', '<b>could</b>', '<b>may</b>', '<b>might</b>', '<b>shall</b>', '<b>should</b>' and '<b>must</b>'.</p>
<b>Morphology</b>	<p>Morphology is the structure of a word and how it is formed from smaller parts.</p> <p>For example, '<b>teacher</b>' is made from the <u>verb</u> '<b>teach</b>' and the <u>suffix</u> '<b>-er</b>'. The suffix could be changed to make, for example, '<b>teaches</b>' or '<b>teaching</b>'.</p>
<b>Noun</b>	<p>A noun is a word used to mean a person, a place or a thing.</p> <p>For example, '<b>boy</b>', '<b>home</b>' and '<b>bridge</b>' are all nouns.</p> <p>A noun can also be an <i>idea</i>, like '<b>love</b>' or '<b>happiness</b>'.</p>



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<b>Noun phrase</b>	<p>A noun phrase is a <u>noun</u> and all the words that describe it, which act together as a noun in a sentence.</p> <p>You can tell that something is a noun phrase if the sentence still makes sense when you replace it with a <u>pronoun</u>.</p> <p>For example, in '<b><i>that girl over there</i> is my cousin</b>', the noun phrase '<b><i>that girl over there</i></b>' can be replaced with the pronoun '<b><i>she</i></b>' to make '<b><i>she is my cousin</i></b>'.</p>
<b>Object</b>	<p>The object of a sentence is usually the thing that the <u>verb</u> is being <i>done to</i> or <i>done with</i>.</p> <p>In '<b>the boy played the drums</b>', '<b>the drums</b>' are the object, as they are the thing being played.</p> 





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## Parenthesis

A parenthesis is extra information inserted into a sentence. It can be shown by brackets, dashes or commas.

For example:

**‘Alicia had a hat – I think it was green – to match her dress.’**

**‘Tigers, unlike most cats, are happy to swim.’**

**‘The Eiffel Tower (located in Paris) is a very famous landmark.’**

The sentence should always make sense if the parenthesis is taken away.



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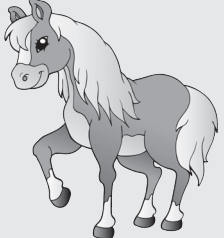
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<b>Passive Voice</b>	<p>The passive voice is when the <u>subject</u> has the <u>verb done to it</u>. A sentence in the passive voice will often have the word '<b>by</b>' after the verb.</p> <p>For example, '<b>The cat was chased by the dog.</b>'</p> <p>The cat is the subject and had the verb ('<b>chased</b>') <i>done to it</i>, so this sentence is passive.</p>
<b>Past tense</b>	<p>A <u>verb</u> in the past tense is used to show that things happened in a past time. It is usually made by adding '<b>-ed</b>' to the verb. For example, '<b>play</b>' becomes '<b>played</b>'.</p>
<b>Perfect tense</b>	<p>The perfect tense is used to show that an action is complete but still meaningful.</p> <p>It is made by putting '<b>have</b>', '<b>has</b>' or '<b>had</b>' before a verb.</p> <p>For example: '<b>I have slept</b>' or '<b>He had eaten</b>'.</p>



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<b>Personal and impersonal language</b>	<p>Personal language uses <u>pronouns</u> such as '<b>I</b>' and '<b>you</b>'. Impersonal language avoids these pronouns.</p> <p>For example, '<b>when <i>I</i> switch on the bulb, it lights up</b>' is personal; '<b>when <i>the bulb is switched on, it lights up</i></b>' is impersonal.</p>
<b>Phrase</b>	<p>A phrase is a group of words that means something on its own, without a <u>verb</u>.</p>  <p>For example, '<b>the big horse</b>'.</p>
<b>Plural</b>	<p>Plural <u>nouns</u> are nouns that describe more than one thing. They usually end in the letter 's', although there are many exceptions.</p> <p>For example, '<b>dogs</b>', '<b>boxes</b>' and '<b>houses</b>' are all plural nouns. So are '<b>mice</b>', '<b>geese</b>' and '<b>men</b>'.</p>
<b>Prefix</b>	<p>A prefix is a letter or letters added at the beginning of a word to turn it into a different word.</p> <p>For example, '<b>un-</b>' is added to the word '<b>friendly</b>' to make the new word '<b>unfriendly</b>'.</p>



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<b>Preposition</b>	<p>A preposition is a word that usually shows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- <i>where</i> one thing is in relation to another;</li><li>- <i>when</i> one thing happened in relation to another;</li><li>- <i>direction</i> of travel.</li></ul> <p>For example: 'He walked <b>towards</b> the house <b>on</b> the hill <b>after</b> lunch.' The words '<b>towards</b>', '<b>on</b>' and '<b>after</b>' are all prepositions.</p>
<b>Present tense</b>	<p>A <u>verb</u> in the present tense is used to show that a thing happens now, or is something that happens regularly.</p> <p>For example, 'I <b>go</b> to the park and I <b>play</b> football.'</p>
<b>Possessive pronoun</b>	<p>A possessive pronoun (e.g. '<b>his</b>', '<b>her</b>' or '<b>my</b>') replaces a <u>noun</u> and a possessive <u>apostrophe</u> to show <i>who</i> or <i>what</i> owns something.</p> <p>For example, instead of '<b>Jane's</b> bike', we can say '<b>Her</b> bike'.</p>



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<b>Pronoun</b>	<p>A pronoun (e.g. '<b>I</b>', '<b>she</b>', '<b>it</b>' or '<b>him</b>') is a word that can be used in place of a <u>noun</u>.</p> <p>For example, '<b>the boy gave the apple to the girl</b>' could replace its nouns for pronouns to become '<b>he gave it to her</b>'.</p>
<b>Proper noun</b>	<p>A proper noun is a name. It can be the name of a person, a place, a day, and so on. Proper nouns almost always use capital letters.</p> <p>'<b>Mr Brown</b>', '<b>Tuesday</b>' and '<b>Scotland</b>' are all proper nouns.</p>
<b>Relative clause</b>	<p>A relative clause is a <u>clause</u> that adds detail to a <u>noun</u>. It always comes <i>after</i> the noun, and begins with a <u>relative pronoun</u>.</p> <p>For example: '<b>The lion, <i>who had been asleep</i>, opened its eyes.</b>'</p> <p>The relative clause in this sentence is '<b>who had been asleep</b>', as it adds detail to '<b>the lion</b>'.</p> 



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<b>Relative pronoun</b>	<p>A relative pronoun is a word that links a <u>relative clause</u> to the <u>noun</u> that it describes.</p> <p>For example:</p> <p><b>‘That’s the girl <i>who</i> won the prize.’</b> <b>‘She scored five goals, <i>which</i> impressed the team.’</b></p> <p>The words <b>‘that’</b>, <b>‘which’</b>, <b>‘who’</b>, <b>‘whose’</b> and <b>‘whom’</b> are all relative pronouns. The words <b>‘when’</b>, <b>‘where’</b> and <b>‘why’</b> can also be relative pronouns.</p>
<b>Root word</b>	<p>A root word is the simplest form of a word, before any <u>prefix</u> or <u>suffix</u> is added to it.</p> <p>For example, <b>‘friend’</b> is the root word of <b>‘unfriendly’</b>.</p>



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<b>Semicolon</b> ;	<p>A semicolon is a punctuation mark used to separate two <u>main clauses</u> in a sentence. It makes a shorter pause than a full stop but a longer one than a <u>comma</u>.</p> <p>For example: '<b>It was a lovely day; the sun shone all around.</b>'</p> <p>A semicolon can also separate items in a list of <u>phrases</u>.</p>
<b>Singular</b>	<p>Singular means that there is just one. A singular <u>noun</u> is noun that describes one single thing.</p> <p>For example, '<b>cat</b>' or '<b>boy</b>'.</p>
<b>Slang</b>	<p>Slang means casual language that is not <u>Standard English</u>.</p> <p>For example, '<b>quid</b>' instead of '<b>pounds</b>' is slang.</p> <p>Slang should not be used in writing except to create a casual and chatty effect, for example in direct speech.</p>



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<b>Standard English</b>	<p>Standard English is grammatically correct and avoids <u>slang</u> and <u>dialect</u> words. It is not always <u>formal language</u> so <u>contractions</u> can be used.</p> <p>For example, '<b>I ain't gonna go there</b>' is not Standard English but '<b>I'm not going to go there</b>' is.</p>
<b>Subject</b>	<p>The subject is the focus of a sentence. Try asking yourself: 'Who or what is this sentence <i>about</i>?'</p> <p>In '<b>The dog chased the cat</b>', the subject is the dog. The sentence is about what the dog did.</p> <p>In '<b>The cat was chased by the dog</b>', the subject is the cat. The sentence is about what happened to the cat.</p> <p>The subject is often the first thing mentioned in the sentence.</p>





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<b>Subjunctive</b>	<p>The subjunctive form of a <u>verb</u> creates a feeling of uncertainty. It is used to talk about something that hasn't actually happened.</p> <p>For example: '<b>I insist that Tom <i>write</i> to his aunt.</b>'</p> <p>The verb '<b>write</b>' is in the subjunctive form. Tom isn't actually writing to his aunt; the sentence says that he should, but he might not.</p> 
<b>Subordinate clause or Sub-clause</b>	<p>A subordinate clause (or sub-clause) is a <u>clause</u> that only makes sense along with the <u>main clause</u>. It does not make sense as a sentence on its own.</p> <p>For example, in '<b>I eat fruit when I am hungry</b>', the sub-clause is '<b>when I am hungry</b>'.</p> <p>A subordinate clause can come before or after a main clause.</p>



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<b>Suffix</b>	<p>A suffix is a letter or letters added at the end of a word to turn it into a different word.</p> <p>For example, '<b>-ed</b>' is added to the end of the word '<b>look</b>' to make the new word '<b>looked</b>'.</p>
<b>Synonym</b>	<p>Synonyms are words that have the same or very similar meanings, such as '<b>happy</b>' and '<b>cheerful</b>'.</p>
<b>Tense</b>	<p>Tense shows <i>when</i> a <u>verb</u> takes place. We show tense by using different forms of the verb.</p> <p>For example, '<b>I swim</b>' is in the <u>present tense</u> and '<b>I swam</b>' is in the <u>past tense</u>.</p> 
<b>Thesaurus</b>	<p>A thesaurus is a reference book that lists words in groups of <u>synonyms</u>.</p>
<b>Time</b>	<p>Time is <i>when</i> something happens. For example, '<b>In the morning</b>'.</p>



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<b>Verb</b>	<p>Verbs are often called ‘doing’ words, but can also describe what something is ‘being’.</p> <p>For example ‘<b>It was cold.</b>’</p> <p>They may have a past, present or future <u>tense</u>. The words ‘<b>looked</b>’, ‘<b>look</b>’ and ‘<b>will look</b>’ are all forms of the verb ‘<b>to look</b>’, but are in different tenses.</p>
<b>Vowel</b>	<p>‘Vowel’ can mean:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- A sound that you do not use your lips, tongue or teeth to make, when speaking.</li><li>- A letter that, when read aloud, make a <u>vowel</u> sound. ‘<b>a</b>’, ‘<b>e</b>’, ‘<b>i</b>’, ‘<b>o</b>’, and ‘<b>u</b>’ are vowel letters. ‘<b>y</b>’ can be a vowel letter or a <u>consonant</u> letter.</li></ul>
<b>Word family</b>	<p>A word family is a group of words that are linked by spelling, meaning or a grammatical rule.</p> <p>For example, ‘<b>teach</b>’, ‘<b>teacher</b>’ and ‘<b>teaching</b>’ all share the <u>root word</u> ‘<b>teach</b>’. The words ‘<b>blue</b>’, ‘<b>true</b>’ and ‘<b>glue</b>’ all share the ‘<b>ue</b>’ letter string.</p>