

# Grammar



## A Parents' Guide

A guide to the new national curriculum's grammatical terms for those of us who weren't taught grammar at school.



# WORDS

**YEAR 1**

Words are used to help us talk to each other.

There are lots and lots of words.

They all have:

a way they are spoken

a way they are spelled

one or more meaning

**REMEMBER!**

Words help us talk and communicate.



# LETTERS VS. CAPITALS **YEAR 1**

Letters and capital letters sound the same when they're spoken...

abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz  
ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

...but they look different.

**USE CAPITALS**

at the beginning of sentences  
at the beginning of people's names  
at the beginning of place names  
when using 'I' to talk about ourselves

**REMEMBER!**

Only use capitals when required.



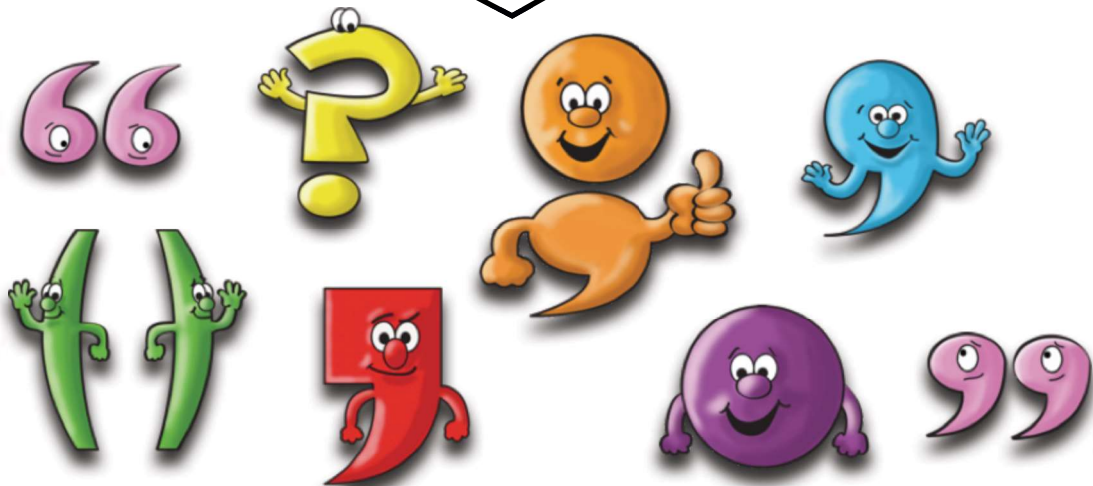
# PUNCTUATION

**YEAR 1**

Punctuation helps us to read sentences.

There are lots of punctuation marks that give us clues about when to pause and how to end sentences.

Don't tell the grown ups, but...



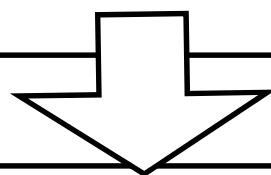
Punctuation marks are really the Punctuation Pals - a group of friendly aliens who help us to communicate.



# FULL STOPS

**YEAR 1**

A full stop lets a reader know when to stop reading and pause.



A full stop goes at the end of a sentence.



**FOR EXAMPLE**

The man walked  
across the road.

The dog chased the  
cat.

The full stop  
goes here to  
show that the  
sentence has  
finished.

**REMEMBER!**

A full stop doesn't  
just go at the end of a  
line - check it makes  
sense.



# EXCLAMATION MARKS *YEAR 1*

Exclamation marks are used to show strong feeling or emotion.

They're commonly used at the end of a command or to imply shouting.

Exclamation marks show strong emotion.

**FOR EXAMPLE**

You're in trouble!

How silly this is!

That's a ridiculous decision!

The exclamation mark adds more feeling.

**REMEMBER!**

Don't use too many.



# QUESTION MARKS

**YEAR 1**

We use question marks to go at the end of sentences that ask questions.

They will replace the full stop.

**FOR EXAMPLE**

Where's my supper?

Who are you?

What's your name?

The question marks go here.

**REMEMBER!**

Questions need a question mark and not a full stop.



# SINGULAR IS PLURAL

**YEAR 1**

Singular means one.

Plural means more than one.

We can normally change a singular word to a plural word by adding 's' or 'es'.

**FOR EXAMPLE**

book becomes books  
cow becomes cows  
bus becomes buses  
potato becomes potatoes

**REMEMBER!**

Take care with words that don't become plural in the usual ways.





# SENTENCES

YEAR 1

To create a simple sentence, we follow simple rules.

FOR EXAMPLE

The man sneezed loudly.

We need a capital letter and a full stop.

AND

The man sneezed loudly.

It will usually have a subject and a verb.

REMEMBER!

A sentence should be a full thought.

