

Concrete noun

Something you can touch e.g. 'chair', 'pen', 'shoe'. Can be common nouns or proper nouns that need a capital letter. For example: 'Mrs. Smith', 'Dorking Town'.

Determiner

A word that introduces a noun and identifies it in detail. This may be a definite or indefinite article (a, an, the), a demonstrative (this, that), possessive (your, my), a quantifier (some, many) or a number (six, ten, half).

Fronted adverbials

Words or phrases used at the beginning of a sentence, used like adverbs to describe the action that follows. For example, 'With a happy smile, she skipped into the room.'

Imperative verb

A verb that stands alone without a subject noun or pronoun in a command. Known as 'bossy verbs' 'Please be quiet!'

Phrase

A small group of words that does not contain a verb.

TIME TO GET TO GRIPS WITH GRAMMAR AND PUNCTUATION



NORTH DOWNS SCHOOL

GRAMMAR AND PUNCTUATION
GUIDE

YEAR 4

Here at North Downs, Grammar and Punctuation are taught during English sessions, through discrete learning, and in separate lessons. Children are expected to know not only the terminology, but also how to apply the skills across their learning. At North Downs, we strongly believe that there needs to be a sound knowledge base to build upon each year; a progressive development of all-round skills for life!

Abstract Noun

A feeling or concept which cannot be touched, such as love, happiness, education.

Adverbial Phrase

A phrase built around an adverb - for example 'as quickly as possible', 'very rudely'.

Article

Words which tell us if a noun is general or specific. 'The' is called the 'definite article' and refers to specific nouns: 'The man's hat is blue'. The 'indefinite articles' are 'a' and 'an', referring to general nouns: 'A bird eats berries'.

Common noun

Describes a class of objects (e.g. dog, man, day) which do not have a capital letter (e.g. Rover, Jim, Thursday).



Possessive pronoun

A pronoun which is used to show ownership. Some can be used on their own ('mine', 'yours', 'his', 'hers', 'ours', 'theirs'), whilst others need to be attached to a noun ('my', 'your', 'her', 'our', 'their', 'whose').

Personal pronoun

A pronoun which replaces a person, place or thing. For example, 'I', 'you', 'he', 'she', 'we', 'they', 'it', 'me', 'him', 'her', 'us', 'them'.

Prepositional phrase

A phrase which contains a preposition. For example, 'under the carpet', 'behind the door', 'after school'.

Pronoun

Any word which can be used to replace a noun. See personal pronoun, possessive pronoun.

Proper noun

A noun which names a particular person, place or thing. For example, 'Jack', 'London', 'Italy', 'March.'