

### Brackets / Parenthesis

A punctuation mark used to set a non-essential section of a sentence apart. Also known as parenthesis. For example, 'My friend Chloe (who is three months older than me) is coming to my house tonight'.

### Dash

Used in a similar way to brackets or parentheses to set information apart in a sentence. For example, 'My cousins - Sally and Jack - are coming on holiday with us'.

## TIME TO GET TO GRIPS WITH GRAMMAR AND PUNCTUATION



NORTH DOWNS SCHOOL

GRAMMAR AND PUNCTUATION  
GUIDE  
YEAR 5

**Adjectival Phrase** A phrase built around an adjective - for example 'bright red', 'frighteningly bad'.

**Ambiguity** A sentence contains ambiguity if it could be open to more than one meaning. Pupils are taught to use hyphens to avoid ambiguity; for example, the sentence 'Jaws is about a man eating shark' could be ambiguous, but with the insertion of a hyphen becomes much clearer: 'Jaws is about a man-eating shark.'

**Cohesion** A sentence will have cohesion if all its parts fit together, for example if tenses and pronouns are consistent and determiners refer to the correct noun.

**Embedded clause** A clause used in the middle of another clause. It is usually marked by commas. For example, 'The man, wearing a grey jacket, whistled a tune to himself'.

**Future tense** A verb tense which describes actions that are going to take place in the future. Often uses the modal auxiliary verb 'will'. For example, 'Tomorrow I will go to London.'

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!



**Modal verb** A special verb which affects the other verbs in the sentence by showing obligation (e.g. 'You should clean the cage'), possibility (e.g. 'I might watch a film'), ability (e.g. 'You can have pizza'), or permission (e.g. 'You may go to the park').

**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). For example, 'He ate too many cakes, which made him feel ill'.

**Relative pronoun** A pronoun used in a relative clause (who, that, which).

**Second person** A sentence is written in the second person if it is written from the point of view of a person being spoken to - in other words, using the pronoun 'you'.

**Third person** A sentence is written in the third person if it is written from the point of view of a person being spoken about - in other words, using the pronouns 'he', 'she', 'it' or 'they'.