

Essential grammatical terms for Year 6:

Punctuation:

Semi-colon, colon and dash

Using punctuation to link two independent (main) clauses.

- It's raining; I'm fed up.
- I'm looking for my dog: He's a poodle.
- I'm listening to the radio - it's awesome!

Hyphens to avoid ambiguity

Use hyphens to ensure meaning is clear.

- Man eating shark or man-eating shark.
- Beware of car chasing dog or beware of car-chasing dog.

Subject

The subject is the person, noun phrase, pronoun or thing which does the verb in a clause.

- Wednesday is my favourite day.
- Cheryl's mum is picking me up today.
- Are you coming to the sleepover?

Synonym

A synonym is a word or phrase with the same or similar meaning to another. You can find synonyms in a **thesaurus**.

- talk = speak = mention
- sleep = doze = kip

Object

The object is the person, noun phrase, pronoun or thing which usually comes directly after the verb. It shows what the verb is acting on.

- Wednesday is my favourite day
- Cheryl's mum is picking me up today.
- Are you coming to the sleepover?

Antonym

Antonyms are words with opposite meanings.

- young – old
- straight – bendy
- full - empty



Active

When a sentence is in the active voice, the pattern is subject-verb-object. The **subject** of the verb is more important.

- James broke the window.
- The PTA painted the playground.

Passive

When a sentence is in the passive voice, the pattern is usually object-verb-(subject). The object of the verb is more important.

- The window has been broken.
- The playground was painted (by the PTA).