

Glossary

abbreviation	a shortened word or group of words (for example, WHO stands for World Health Organisation). Abbreviations that are made by removing one or more letters from the middle of a word (e.g. she didn't for she did not) are also known as contractions .
adjective	a describing word giving extra information about a noun (e.g. huge, bouncy)
adverb	a word that says more about a verb, such as how, when or where (e.g. slowly, unfortunately, elsewhere)
alphabetical order	when words are put in the same order as the letters of the alphabet (e.g., ant, ball, cat)
anagram	a word puzzle where the letters of a word have been mixed up (e.g. marching is an anagram of charming)
antonym	a word with the opposite meaning (e.g. soft and hard are antonyms) (<i>compare synonym</i>)
apostrophe	looks like this ' and is used for abbreviation (to make shortened forms of words), e.g. can't . It is also used to show possession (having or owning something), e.g. the man's hat .
comparative	an adjective or adverb that is used to compare two items and to show which is the more extreme of the two (e.g. more, smaller, faster) (<i>compare superlative</i>)
comprehension	understanding. A comprehension activity tests your understanding of the language and content of a particular text passage.
direct speech	a written version of the exact words spoken, which appear in speech marks, e.g. " I am very tired, " said Noah . (<i>compare indirect speech</i>)
fiction	writing that is made up, e.g. a story that is invented by the writer (<i>compare non-fiction</i>)
grammar	the rules of a language. You use the rules in order to write or speak correctly and to be understood.
homonym	a word with the same spelling as another word, but a different meaning (e.g. bark and fine both have more than one meaning)
homophone	a word that sounds the same as another but has a different meaning and/or spelling (e.g. two, too and to are homophones)
indirect speech	a written version of the words spoken – as they are reported by someone else, e.g. Noah said that he was very tired . No speech marks are used. (<i>compare direct speech</i>)
non-fiction	writing that is based on fact, e.g. a report (<i>compare fiction</i>)
noun	a naming word. Nouns name objects, people and places (e.g. book, nurse, library).

parts of speech	the different types of words that make up a language (e.g. noun, verb, adjective, adverb)
past tense	the form of words used when something has already happened (e.g. We went to school.)
persuasive text	text that aims to make you do something specific, e.g. to buy something or to change your mind about something
phrase	a group of words that go together, a part of a sentence
plural	more than one of something (e.g. cats)
poetry	words written in lines of a certain length, used to describe things vividly. Sometimes the words at the ends of the lines may rhyme.
possession	having or owning something. An apostrophe is often used to show possession (e.g. the children's clothes).
prefix	a group of letters added to the start of some words (e.g. un, dis) (compare suffix)
preposition	a word that is usually followed by a noun phrase. Many prepositions tell you about time, position or direction (e.g. at, under, between, over).
proverb	a saying that teaches you something about life (e.g. Better safe than sorry.)
punctuation	marks such as full stops and question marks, which are used in writing to help understanding
saying	a commonly used phrase. Some sayings may, like proverbs, teach you something about life (e.g. One good turn deserves another).
scrambled sentence	a sentence in which the words have been mixed up in order to give you practice in writing correctly. You have to put the words in the correct order, so that they make sense. You also have to add the correct punctuation and capital letters.
sentence	a group of words that make sense together, beginning with a capital letter and ending with a full stop, question mark or exclamation mark. Most sentences include a verb and at least one noun.
simile	a descriptive comparison in which a writer compares one thing to another using the words like or as (e.g. he swims like a fish or as big as an elephant)
spelling	arranging letters one by one to make a word
suffix	a group of letters added to the end of the word (e.g. ful, ly) (compare prefix)
superlative	an adjective or adverb that is used to compare several items and to show which is the most extreme of them all (e.g. most, smallest, fastest) (compare comparative)
synonym	a word with a similar meaning (e.g. chilly is a synonym of cold) (compare antonym)
verb	a doing word (e.g. catch, throw, run, jump) or a being word (e.g. was or is)