

Vocabulary, Grammar and Punctuation Terminology

Relative Clause

A relative clause is a special type of subordinate clause which adds extra information to another noun or clause. A relative clause uses a relative pronoun such as; 'who', 'that' or 'which'. The extra information is embedded in a sentence with commas. James, **who never does his homework**, is very lazy. All the chocolate pudding was gone by the time I got to lunch, **which really annoyed me**.

Relative Pronoun

Relative Pronouns (**who, which, where, that, when**) introduce a relative clause. They refer back to a noun or clause what we already know. The athlete, **who** won the race, trained hard. Where did you buy the jumper **that** you wore yesterday?

Cohesive devices

A text which has cohesion fits logically together. The reader can see how one part moves on to another or now the end links to the beginning. To achieve cohesion, we use cohesive devices such as connective phrases and determiners.

Modal Verbs

Modal verbs change or affect other verbs in a sentence. They are used to show the level of possibility – certain, possible or impossible. My keys **must** be in the house. Modal verbs also talk about ability, to ask permission, make requests or offers. **May** I ask a question? **Could** I have some tea, please?



Verb Prefixes

A letter or group of letters can be added to the beginning of a verb to make a new word with a slightly different meaning.
 dis- (this reverses the verb meaning)
disconnect
 de- (means 'do the opposite')
deselect
 mis- (means 'badly')
mislead
 over- (means 'too much')
oversleep
 re- (means 'again' or 'back')
revisit

Parenthesis

We use parenthesis to add extra detail to a clause which is already grammatically correct. We may use brackets, dashes or commas to separate the information within the main clause.

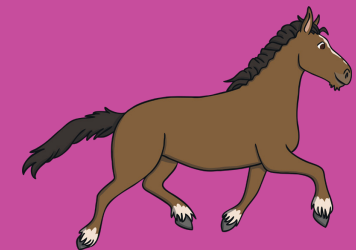
Suffixes

To convert a noun or adjective, a letter or group of letters can be added to the end of a noun to make a verb.
 -ate
 assassinate
 -ise
 authorise
 -ify
 classify



Ambiguity

If a phrase or clause is ambiguous, the meaning is not clear. Often, you can solve this problem by re-ordering the sentence or using more precise punctuation. I rode my horse wearing red pyjamas. Is it the horse that is wearing pyjamas? **Wearing red pyjamas**, I rode my horse.



Brackets

Brackets are used to add extra information in a text. Curved brackets are most commonly used in a clause.

Mrs Jones (**my teacher**) works in Year 5.

Commas

Commas are used to embed a clause (a group of words that include a subject and verb) within a main clause. The comma is used before the embedded clause and immediately after.

Michael, **who sits next to me**, is brilliant at Art.

Dashes

A dash is used in a clause to separate groups of words. A dash is longer than a hyphen and it tells the reader to take a pause.

The product of four and nine
– 36 – is a square number.

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