



# Year 3

## English

## Grammar Glossary

Below is an explanation of all the grammar terminology that is taught to children in Year 3. Some of these terms are introduced in previous year groups and re-visited and some are covered for the first time in Year 3.

Abstract Noun	A feeling or concept which cannot be touched. <i>love, happiness, friendship</i>
Adjective	A word which modifies a <b>noun</b> . The landscape is <i>delightful</i> . The <i>fearless</i> girl climbed the mountain.
Adverb	A word which modifies a <b>verb</b> , <b>clause</b> , <b>adjective</b> or other <b>adverb</b> . An <b>adverb</b> tells you how, when, where or how often something happens. Some are also used for linking ideas ( <i>fortunately, however</i> ), how likely or possible something is ( <i>definitely</i> ) or are used for emphasis ( <i>very, quite</i> )  Mr Fox stalked <i>silently</i> into the chicken house.
Adverbial Phrase	A phrase built around an <b>adverb</b> . Some adverbial phrases can also be a <b>subordinate clause</b> . <i>Five minutes later</i> , lunch time ended. <i>As she took a handful of popcorn</i> , she gazed in awe at the screen.
Article	The words <i>the, an</i> and <i>a</i> are articles and are all types of <b>determiner</b> . 'The' is called a <b>definite article</b> because it is used before a specific <b>noun</b> ( <i>the dog</i> ). 'An' and 'a' are called <b>indefinite articles</b> because they are used before non-specific <b>nouns</b> ( <i>a dog</i> ).
Clause	A <b>phrase</b> which contains a <b>verb</b> . The other words in the <b>clause</b> add meaning to the <b>verb</b> .  There are different types of <b>clause</b> : <b>main clause</b> , <b>subordinate clause</b> and <b>relative clause</b> .

Comma	<p>A punctuation mark used to separate items in a list.</p> <p>The warrior was fearless, strong, tall and skilled. Before picking up his sword, he lifted his heavy shield.</p>
Common Noun	<p>Describes a class of objects which are non-specific and do not require a capital letter.</p> <p>dog, man, school, country</p>
Complex Sentence	<p>Formed by joining a <b>main clause</b> with a <b>subordinate clause</b> using a <b>subordinating conjunction</b>.</p> <p>I was tired because I had worked all day.</p>
Compound Sentence	<p>A sentence formed by joining two <b>main clauses</b> with a <b>coordinating conjunction</b>.</p> <p>I like dogs but my friend likes cats.</p>
Concrete Noun	<p>A noun that you can touch.</p> <p>bed, pencil, cat</p>
Conjunction	<p>A word that joins clauses. Conjunctions can be <b>co-ordinating</b> or <b>subordinating</b>.</p> <p>A co-ordinating conjunction joins a <b>main clause</b> to a <b>main clause</b>. Examples are <b>for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so</b></p> <p>A subordinating conjunction joins a <b>main clause</b> to a <b>subordinate clause</b>. Examples include <b>because, when, as, since, whereas, even, though, however, despite</b></p>
Consonant	<p>Any letter which is not a <b>vowel</b>.</p>
Contraction	<p>Shortened words created by putting two words together, omitting some letters and replacing the omitted letters with an apostrophe.</p> <p>did not → didn't was not → wasn't</p>
Direct Speech	<p>When a person's exact words are written down inside <b>inverted commas</b>.</p> <p>"Grammar is so exciting," exclaimed Miss Helm.</p>

Expanded Noun Phrase	A phrase containing a noun but no verb. An expanded noun phrase must contain one or more adjectives that modify the noun which are placed before the noun in the phrase. the <b>big, bad</b> wolf the <b>heroic, fearless</b> dragon
First Person	A sentence written from the point of view of the subject using the pronouns 'I' or 'me'. <b>There was darkness surrounding me.</b>
Homophone	Words that sound the same but have different meanings and sometimes different spellings. <b>they're/their/there, which/witch, where/wear</b>
Inverted Commas	Punctuation marks used to demarcate <b>direct speech</b> in a sentence. Also known as <b>speech marks</b> . <b>"How delightfully exciting grammar is!" Miss Siddorn exclaimed.</b>
Main Clause	The leading clause in a sentence which indicated the main <b>subject</b> and <b>verb</b> . It can stand alone without any additional clauses. <b>I will go for a walk.</b> Even though the weather is bad, <b>I will go for a walk.</b>
Noun	A person, place, thing, animal or idea. <b>boy, school, table, tiger, kindness</b>
Object	The <b>object</b> of a <b>sentence</b> is involved in the action but does not carry it out. I dropped <b>my cup</b> on the floor.
Paragraph	A distinct section of a piece of writing which usually has a single theme. It is indicated by starting a new line or indenting the first word of the new paragraph.
Past Progressive Tense	A form of the <b>past tense</b> where something goes on for a period of time in the past. It is usually formed by the auxiliary verb 'to be' (was) and adding the suffix -ing to the verb. <b>I <u>was walking</u> in the park.</b>
Past Tense	Any one of a set of verb tenses which describe action that took place in the past. (see also <b>simple past tense, past perfect tense</b> and <b>past progressive tense</b> )

Phrase	A small group of words that does not contain a <b>verb</b> .
Plural	More than one. Using <b>plurals</b> can affect both the <b>nouns</b> and <b>verbs</b> in a sentence.
Phoneme	The smallest unit of sound that can be heard in a word. The English language contains 44 phonemes. <i>The word light is made up of three phonemes: /l/, /igh/, /t/</i>
Possessive Apostrophe	An apostrophe to show ownership. If the owner of the possession ends in: - a single 's' – only an apostrophe is added ( <i>Mr Williams' car</i> ) - a double 's' (ss) – an apostrophe and an additional 's' is added ( <i>my boss's chair</i> ) - any other letter – an apostrophe and an additional 's' ( <i>the girl's bike</i> )
Prefix	Letters that go in front of a root word and change its meaning. <i>-un + happy = unhappy</i> <i>-dis + appear = disappear</i>
Preposition	A linking word in a sentence used to show where things are in time and space. The dinosaur is <i>behind</i> the tree. <i>Under</i> the table, there is a mouse.
Present Perfect Tense	A tense that refers to an action or state that occurred at an indefinite time in the past or that began in the past and continued to the present. This tense is formed by the have/has + the past participle.  You <i>have been</i> my class since September. A large proportion of the rainforest <i>has been</i> destroyed.
Present Tense	Any one of a set of tenses that describe actions which are happening now. (see also present progressive tense)
Proper Noun	A noun which names a particular person, place or thing. <i>Coten End, London, England, Monday</i>
Reported Speech	Reported speech focuses more on the content of what someone said rather than their exact words. Inverted commas are <u>not</u> used. <i>The teacher said that we don't have any homework today.</i>
Root Word	A basic word with no <b>prefix</b> or <b>suffix</b> added to it.

Sentence	One word or a group of words that makes grammatical sense in isolation. It begins with a capital letter and ends with a <b>full stop</b> , <b>question mark</b> or <b>exclamation mark</b> . <b>Sentences</b> usually contain a <b>subject</b> and always contain a <b>verb</b> .
Simple Past Tense	The <b>simple past tense</b> shows that you are talking about something that has already happened. Unlike the <b>past continuous tense</b> , which is used to talk about past events that happened over a period of time, the <b>simple past tense</b> emphasises that the action is finished. <i>We played in the park.</i>
Simple Sentence	A <b>sentence</b> that contains a <b>subject</b> and one <b>verb</b> .
Singular	Referring to only one. Use of the <b>singular</b> may affect the <b>nouns</b> , <b>verbs</b> and <b>pronouns</b> in a <b>sentence</b> .
Subordinate Clause	A <b>clause</b> that cannot stand alone as a complete <b>sentence</b> but is linked to a <b>main clause</b> using a <b>subordinating conjunction</b> . <i>I played out today until it went dark.</i>
Subject	The <b>subject</b> of a sentence is the thing or person carrying out the main action. <i>The cow ate the grass.</i>
Suffix	A string of letters that go at the end of a root word that change or add to its meaning. Suffixes can also show if a word is a <b>noun</b> , <b>verb</b> , <b>adjective</b> or <b>adverb</b> . noun + <b>-ful</b> = adjective <i>fear + -ful = fearful</i> verb + <b>-ment</b> = noun <i>pay + -ment = payment</i>
Third Person	A sentence in the <b>third person</b> is written from the point of view of someone being spoken about using the pronouns he, she, it or they. <i>They are very quiet.</i>
Topic Sentence	The first <b>sentence</b> of a <b>paragraph</b> which gives an overview of what the <b>paragraph</b> will be about.
Verb	A word to describe an action, occurrence or state. <b>Sentences</b> must contain a <b>verb</b> and <b>verb</b> forms change depending on the <b>tense</b> of the <b>sentence</b> . <i>I write.</i> (present) <i>I wrote.</i> (past) <i>I will write.</i> (future)

Vowel	The letters a, e, i, o and u.
Word Family	A group of words that share common roots or <b>morphology</b> . happy, unhappy, happiness, happily, unhappiness, unhappily