

English Glossary

You can help your child by identifying examples of the following when reading with them at home.

Noun - the name of a person or thing. Common nouns - *cat, shoe, leg*

Proper nouns-*Friday, Ben, London, July* (always start with a capital letter)

Adjective - a word that describes a noun e.g. *beautiful, huge, clever*

Noun phrase - a word or group of words in a phrase that acts like a noun e.g. Lily wore a beautiful, red dress. The group of words 'beautiful, red dress,' is a noun phrase.

Verb - a doing word e.g. *walk, smile, write*

Adverb - a word that describes how a verb is carried out e.g. *quietly, slowly, loudly*

Conjunction - a word that links two words or phrases together e.g. *when, if, that, because, or, and, but*

Command - a command tells you to do something.

Starts with a (bossy) imperative verb.

Starts with a capital letter and ends with a full stop or an exclamation mark. *Make the bed. Walk quietly!*

Statement - a statement tells you something.

Starts with a capital letter and ends with a full stop. *The cat is furry. He watched television.*

Question - a question asks something.

Starts with a question word.

Starts with a capital letter and ends with a question mark. *What is your name? How old are you?*

Exclamation - a sentence that shows surprise, shock, or urgency.

Starts with a capital letter and ends with an exclamation mark. *That's amazing! What a surprise!*

Tense - the form of a verb that shows the time when an action takes place e.g. past or present.

Compound - a word that is created by two smaller words being joined together e.g. play + ground = playground

Suffix - added to the end of a word to make a new word e.g. hope + suffix ful = hopeful hope + suffix less = hopeless

Punctuation

. full stop - used to mark the end of a sentence

? question mark - used to mark the end of a question

! exclamation mark - usually used in speech to make a point, show anger, joy, excitement or surprise

, comma - used in different ways

1. to mark a slight pause in a sentence
2. between two adjectives e.g. She had long, golden hair.
3. in a list e.g. He ate apples, pears and grapes.

' apostrophe - used in two ways

1. to show possession e.g. the boy's eyes (one boy) the boys' eyes (more than one boy)
2. to replace missing letters e.g. I am = I'm did not = didn't

" " inverted commas (speech marks) - used around speech when a character is talking e.g. "What would you like for dinner?" asked gran.

() brackets - used to add extra information or an afterthought e.g. My brother (the one who lives in Australia) is coming to visit.

... ellipses - builds suspense e.g. Suddenly, there was a deafening noise from the next room...