



My Year 4 Great Grammar Glossary



Words	Definition	Example
adjective	A describing word found before a noun or after a verb.	A sticky bun. He was surprised .
noun	noun - names for people, places and things common noun - Objects or things which you can see and touch (not unique names of people, places and things). proper noun - Unique names given to people, places and things (must start with a capital letter). collective noun - A word which groups nouns.	See below dog, child, day, computer Fred, Stockwood, Monday, Xbox class of children, herd of sheep
verb	verb - A word which tells us what someone or something is doing or feeling (can be present, past or future). modal verb - Words that change the amount of certainty of other verbs .	He lives in Bristol. She was crying . I feel happy. I am tall. will, would, can, could, should, might, must, We must go to school.
adverb	A word that d escribes a verb often ending in 'ly'.	Ben soon started snoring loudly and quickly .
preposition	A word which tells us where something or someone is in time or place .	Behind, beyond, on, close She'll be back from Peru in two weeks. Tom waved to Tim.
conjunction	A word used to link parts of a sentence together (a type of connective).	but, because, or, yet, so, how, whether, when Kylie is young but she can kick the ball hard.
article	Three words that introduce a noun (the, an, a) (these are a type of determiner).	The mouldy apple. An elephant ate a tree .
determiner	A word which introduces and clarifies a noun (this must go before an adjective in a noun phrase).	the, a, an (articles) this, that, some, every my, your, one, two,
pronoun	A word which replaces a noun that has already been mentioned.	John put his hat on and he left. That is a good idea.
subject	The subject of a sentence is the person, place, thing, or idea that is <i>doing</i> or <i>being</i> something.	I am, you are, he is, Rita went out. That is uncertain Children like dogs.
antonym	Words are antonyms if their meanings are opposites .	Hot and cold , Strong and weak
synonym	Words are synonyms if they have the same meaning .	Old, ancient, elderly Small, minute, tiny
homophone	Words are homophones if they look different, sound the same and mean different things .	hear, here some, sum



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Groups of words	Definition	Example
phrase	A group of words without a verb or any punctuation, which wouldn't make sense as a sentence on its own.	the dog and the chicken
noun phrase	A phrase that tells you more about a noun, without a verb .	the long, winding road people with glasses
clause	A group of words containing a verb which makes sense on its own but has no punctuation.	the small mouse squeaked
sentence	A group of words containing at least one verb and subject, which makes sense on its own . It can be a statement, question, exclamation or command.	Noisily the rain crashed down onto the golden leaves.
main clause	A group of words which contains a subject and a verb, which makes sense on its own .	The man wore a purple hat.
subordinate clause	A group of words that gives us extra information and doesn't make sense on its own.	He watched her <i>as she disappeared</i> .
relative clause	A 'w' clause is a type of subordinate clause . Often starting with who, which, when or where, adds in extra information.	The boy, <i>who had brown hair</i> , tripped over.
adverbial phrase	A phrase which tells you more about a verb .	She brushes her hair from top to bottom.
single-clause sentence	A simple sentence containing a verb, subject and one idea .	Ali went home on his bike.

