

Year 6 Grammar and Punctuation Glossary

This glossary builds on the terminology used in previous years.

Grammar Term	What does it mean?
Active voice	A sentence can have either an active verb or a passive verb. This is called a <i>voice</i> . In a sentence with an <i>active verb</i> , the subject is doing the action. This is called the <i>active voice</i> , e.g. <i>The little girl caught the ball.</i>
Antonym	Two words are antonyms if their meanings are opposite, e.g., <i>fast - slow, light - dark, light-heavy</i>
Bullet points	A <i>punctuation mark</i> , often a black circle, used in a text to show each new part of a list. Information should be presented in bullet point format or as a numbered list. E.g. <i>You will need:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>A bowl</i>• <i>Fruit</i>• <i>Juice</i>
Colon	A <i>colon</i> is a <i>punctuation mark</i> (:) consisting of two equally sized dots centered on the same vertical line. A colon precedes an explanation or list.
Ellipsis	An <i>ellipsis</i> is when words are left out of a sentence but the sentence can still be understood, for example, <i>Freda waved to Chloe and she watched her drive away.</i>
Hyphen	The <i>hyphen</i> (-) is a <i>punctuation mark</i> used to join words and to separate syllables of a single word. The use of hyphens is called <i>hyphenation</i> , e.g. <i>seventy-five, self-assessment.</i>
Object	In grammar terms, an <i>object</i> is a noun, noun phrase, or pronoun that is affected by the action of a verb (a <i>direct object</i> or an <i>indirect object</i>) or that completes the meaning of a preposition (the <i>object of a preposition</i>). E.g., <i>Chloe wrote a beautiful poem. Libby</i>

	<i>sent me an e mail. Ben lives in an old house.</i>
<i>Passive voice</i>	<i>In a sentence with a passive verb, the subject is being acted on. This is called the passive voice, e.g. <u>The ball was caught.</u></i>
<i>Semi-colon</i>	<i>A punctuation mark (;) used to join two independent clauses in a sentence. The semicolon shows that the ideas in the two clauses are related, e.g. <u>Jack really didn't mind being left without a car; he had the house to himself.</u></i>
<i>Subject</i>	<i>The subject is the person or thing that is 'doing' the verb. These are always nouns or pronouns. E.g. <u>The fox chased a rabbit. Mary went to the park.</u></i>
<i>Synonym</i>	<i>Two words are synonyms if they have the same meaning or similar meanings, e.g. <u>talk - speak, old - elderly.</u> A synonym is in contrast to an antonym.</i>