

Vocabulary, Grammar & Punctuation

Year 5 Explanation of Terms

Term	Guidance	Example
Ambiguity	We use commas to make sure that the meaning is clear, avoiding ambiguity.	While the chicken was cooking, gravy was made in the jug. (clear meaning) While the chicken was cooking gravy in the jug. (unclear meaning)
Brackets	This punctuation is used to separate words or phrases within a sentence.	Did you leave your bag (red with pink flowers) on the bus? Amy (aged 11) joined the local football team.
Comma	This punctuation is used to separate words or phrases within a sentence and also separate clauses.	Amy, aged 11, joined the local football team. Tom's football, which was a birthday present, went into a neighbour's garden. If you eat your dinner, you may have pudding.
Dash	This punctuation is used to separate words or phrases within a sentence.	Did you leave your bag - red with pink flowers - on the bus? Amy - aged 11 - joined the local football team.
Modal Verb	These change the meaning of other words and indicate possibility.	You can go to the party. You might go to the party. You will not go to the party. You should go to the party.
Parenthesis	This is a word or phrase added to a sentence to provide additional information. Brackets, commas or dashes are used to punctuate them.	Amy (aged 11) joined the local football team. Did you leave your bag - red with pink flowers - on the bus? Tom's football, which was a birthday present, went into a neighbour's garden.
Past perfect Tense	This is used to link ideas within and across sentences and paragraphs. It shows that something had happened before something else in the past.	Katherine had worked very hard. Aliens had landed on the school field. past perfect = had + past tense verb
Relative Pronoun	A pronoun that refers back to the noun in a sentence.	who, which, where, whose, whom, that
Relative Clauses	Relative clauses are clauses starting with the relative pronouns who, that, which, whose, where, when.	I want to live in a place where there is lots to do. I like the woman who lives next door. We bought a house which is 200 years old.

Building Cohesion	Creating cohesion means 'tying' our words, phrases, sentences and paragraphs together, to create a text where the relationships between these elements is clear and logical to the reader, giving the text 'flow'.	in conclusion, however, moreover, similarly, in addition, in contrast, meanwhile, definitely
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