

Year 1 - Punctuation features

Skill	Example	Even better if
I can use full stops and capital letters	The man is a pirate.	Use a capital letter for proper nouns (names of people, places, days of the week and months) and pronoun 'I' E.g. The pirate is called Jake.
I can begin to use question marks	Do you like the sea?	
	What were pirate ships like?	
I can begin to use exclamation	Ouch!	
marks	He was big. He was huge!	

Year 1 - Grammar skills for writing

Skill		Example	Even better if
I can write	statements	A ship is big.	I went to school.
	questions	What is your name?	How big is a pirate ship?
	commands	Give me all your gold.	Now walk the plank.
I can use adje	ctives	Add an adjective	Add 2 adjectives
		A tall pirate.	A tall, ugly pirate.
		The pirate has a purple beard.	The pirate has a long, purple
			beard.
			Use impressive adjectives
			appropriately
			The pirate sails on a rickety ship.
I can add –s o	r –es to make	There are lots of dogs.	
plural nouns.		She gave him 3 wishes.	
I can add suff	ixes to a verb	I am helping.	
where no cha	nges to the root	You helped me.	
word are nee	ded	I am taller than you.	
-ing, -ed, -er,	-est	I am the tallest in the class.	
I can add the verbs and adj	=	I am feeling unhappy today.	
I can use som	e co-ordination	Pirates sailed the seas and they	Pirates sailed the seas because
and subordina	ation	stole treasure.	they were looking for boats with
			treasure.
Terminology f	or pupils	letter, capital letter	
		word, singular, plural	
		sentence	
		punctuation, full stop, question ma	ırk, exclamation mark



Year 2 - Punctuation features

Skill	Example	Even better if
I can use full stops and capital letters	Fluffy is a cat.	Consistently using a capital letter for proper nouns (Names of people, places, days of the week and months) E.g. On Tuesday Fluffy was very naughty.
I can use question marks	Do you like cats?	
I can use an exclamation mark	Exclamation marks come after exclamation sentences beginning with what or how. What a naughty cat! How beautiful that little bird was!	Use an exclamation mark in speech when you want to show the speaker raises their voice "No!" he cried. "Ouch! That hurt" she complained
I can use commas to separate items in a list.	A fluffy, ginger cat. You had red, watery eyes and a runny nose.	Comma can also split verbs and nouns Nouns: I put on trousers, a shirt and a thick sweater. Verbs: I got up, had a shower, cleaned my teeth and got dressed.
I can use apostrophes for contraction	E.g. I'm can't don't she's won't I'll isn't I'd	
I can begin to use apostrophes for singular possession	An apostrophe with the letter s is used to show someone owns something Fluffy's claws. The cat's tail	



Year 2 - Grammar skills for writing

Skill		Example	Even better if
I can write	statements	An elephant is big.	I went to school.
	questions	What is your name?	How big is an elephant?
	exclamations	It must begin with what or how	
		What a wonderful surprise it was!	
		How beautiful she is!	
	commands	Don't kill the bird.	Fluffy stop it.
I can use expa	inded noun	Add Adjectives	Add a post modifier
phrases		It was a small, beautiful bird.	It was a small, beautiful bird with
		Fluffy is a big, ginger cat.	colourful feathers.
			Fluffy is a big, ginger cat with a
			long tail.
			Use ambitious adjectives
			appropriately
			Fluffy is an enormous, loveable cat
I can use pres	ent and past	Present	
tense mostly	correctly	Sophie likes cats. Her cat is	
		naughty.	
		Past	
		Sophie liked cats. Her cat was	
		naughty.	
I can use som	e co-ordination	The cat killed a bird and a fish.	Add two conjunctions in a
to create cohe	esion	Sophie loves Fluffy but he is	sentence.
(and, but, or)		naughty.	Fluffy was happy and he caught
		Cats can chase rabbits or mice.	the fish but Sophie was very upset.
			Try using 'so'
			The bird was hopping around so
			Fluffy hit it with his paw.
I am beginnin	g to use	Yesterday afternoon , Fluffy killed a	
adverbs/adve	rbials of time to	little bird. After that , he took it into	
create cohesi	on	the house. Next , Sophie had to	
(First, After th	at, In the	clean up the mess on the carpet.	
afternoon,		After dinner , she gave Fluffy a	
Yesterday, Be	fore school)	cuddle.	
	e sub ordination	Fluffy chased the bird because it	Add coordination and
to create cohe	esion	was hopping around.	subordination into one sentence
(when, if, that	t, because)	When Fluffy caught the bird Dad	When the bird fluttered, Fluffy
		was cross.	caught it and it pecked at Fluffy.
		Dad was cross when Fluffy caught	Some cats are well behaved, but
		the bird.	Fluffy is naughty because he
		<i>If</i> Fluffy is naughty, Sophie gets	chases other animals.
		very upset.	If he catches rabbits and pretty
		Sophie gets upset if Fluffy is	birds, Sophie will be upset.
		naughty.	I hope that fluffy starts to be good,
		I hope that Fluffy starts being	or there will be problems.
		good.	



I can add suffixes –er, -ness, -	Tom was taller than his brother.	
ful, -less, -ly	I am filled with happiness.	
	Your dress is so beautiful.	
	Don't be so careless!	
	The wolf was grinning slyly.	
Terminology for pupils	noun, noun phrase, statement, question, exclamation, command, root	
	word, suffix, adjective, adverb, verb, tense (past, present)	
	apostrophe, comma	



Year 3 - Punctuation Features

Feature	Example	Even better if
I can use commas in a list	A tall, dark, handsome man.	Commas can also split verbs and nouns.
	The man was tall, dark and	Nouns: I put on trousers, a shirt
	handsome	and a thick sweater.
		Verbs: I got up, had a shower, cleaned my teeth and got dressed.
I can begin to use commas for	Commas go after a fronted	Commas can also separate a
clarity	adverbial e.g.	subordinate clause starter from a
	First thing in the morning, Peter	main clause e.g.
	left for work.	When the bell went, the children
	As quick as a flash, I jumped from	went out to play.
	my desk.	After finishing lunch, I visited my
		friend.
I can use an exclamation mark	Exclamation marks come after	Use an exclamation mark in
	exclamation sentences beginning	speech when you want to show
	with what or how.	the speaker raises their voice
	What a wonderful day! What a	"Help!" he cried.
	wonderful day I had!	"Ouch! That hurt" she
	How beautiful! How beautiful it is!	complained.
I can use question marks	Used to indicate a question	
	What did the Roman's wear?	
	"How was school?" Mum asked.	
I can use inverted commas or	"Where is your homework?"	
speech marks in dialogue	asked the teacher.	
	"My dog ate it," replied John.	
I can use apostrophes for	E.g. I'm can't don't she's	
contraction	won't I'll isn't I'd	
I can use apostrophes for	An apostrophe with the letter 's'	An apostrophe to show plural
possession	is used to show someone owns	possession e.g. The children's
	something e.g.	books
	Handa's hen	The cars tyres.
	The cat's tail	



Year 3 - Grammar Skills for Writing

Grammar Skill	Example	Even better if
I can begin to use cohesive devices across paragraphs and sentences (adverbials) e.g. today, that afternoon, yesterday, soon, meanwhile, therefore	Adverbials First thing in the morning, I Later that day, my mum After dinner, I	More advanced cohesive devices e.g. Fortunately/Unfortunately The last time/ Afterwards/Meanwhile Pronouns for cohesion Mark put on a jumper and then he left his house.
I can use a variety of co- ordinating conjunctions (or /and /but /so /yet) to develop cohesion	I ate the apple, and then drank water. I did my homework, but I forgot it. The spider spun a web, so he could catch a fly.	Put two conjunctions in one sentence. I put on my coat and ran to school, but I was still late. Joe ate an apple but didn't drink water, so he was still thirsty.
I can use some subordinate conjunctions e.g. (when /if /that /because /after /although / before /even though /while) to develop cohesion	When John got home, he ate dinner. Although she was tired, she still went swimming. Before I finish my holidays, I will visit you.	Put two conjunctions in one sentence When John got home, he ate dinner before going to bed. Although she was tired, she still went swimming because she needed some exercise.
I can use dialogue with different verbs other than 'said'	"Help me!" screamed/whispered/murmured/ mumbled/shouted/ordered/ instructed/announced/yelled/plea ded the boy.	Add an adverb/adverbial "Sit down!" ordered the teacher angrily/anxiously/calmly/ enthusiastically/ /repeatedly.
I can use some expanded noun phrases with pre and post modifiers to describe and specify	blue shirt with short sleeves tall tree by the river angry man from London interesting book on the table. Use ambitious adjectives appropriately Brand-new shirt Towering tree Furious man fascinating book	Add a qualifier lots of/a couple of/countless /numerous/a large number of/a few/hardly any interesting books on the table. Start a sentence with one or 2 adjectives Tired, John went home. Tired but happy, John went home.
I can begin to use the perfect form (to talk about recent events/experiences)	"Where have you been?" asked Mum, "I have been trying to phone you". "I've never eaten pasta before but I have drunk coconut juice". John had visited Paris once before and he had climbed the Eifel Tower.	



I can use adverbs of manner and time within and to start sentences	John ran quickly to school. Quickly, John got dressed. I went to school yesterday Yesterday, I went to school.	Use 2 adverbs in a sentence Quickly yet quietly, John walked into the room. Yesterday, John ran quickly to school.
I can form words using prefixes and recognise word forms and word families.	Formation of nouns using a range of prefixes (e.g. super–, anti–, auto–) e.g. superhero, anticlockwise, automatic Use of the forms 'a or an' according to whether the next word begins with a consonant or a vowel e.g. a rock, an open box Word families based on common words, showing how words are related in form and meaning, for example, solve, solution, solver, dissolve, insoluble	
I can use paragraphs and headings for cohesion	Paragraphs are used to group related material. Headings and sub-headings aid presentation and cohesion.	
Terminology for pupils	preposition, conjunction word family, prefix, clause, subordinate clause, direct speech consonant, consonant letter, vowel, vowel letter, inverted commas (or 'speech marks')	



Year 4 - Punctuation Features

Feature	Example	Even better if
I can use commas in a list	A tall, dark, handsome man. The man was tall, dark and handsome.	Comma can also split verbs and nouns e.g. Nouns: I put on trousers, a shirt and a thick sweater. Verbs: I got up, had a shower, cleaned my teeth and got dressed.
I can use commas for clarity	Commas go after a fronted adverbial e.g. First thing in the morning, Peter left for work. As quick as a flash, I jumped from my desk.	Commas can also separate a subordinate clause from a main clause e.g. When the bell went, the children went out to play. After finishing lunch, I visited my friend.
I can use an exclamation mark	Exclamation marks come after exclamation sentences beginning with 'what' or 'how' e.g. What a wonderful day! /What a wonderful day I had! How beautiful! /How beautiful it is!	Use an exclamation mark in speech when you want to show the speaker raises their voice "Help!" he cried. "Ouch! That hurt!" she complained.
I can use question marks	Used to indicate a question What did the Roman's wear? "How was school?" Mum asked.	Use question marks in informal dialogue after question tags or to show uncertainty: "It's lovely, isn't it?" "You won't be late, will you?" "I'll see you at 9pm, won't !?"
I can use inverted commas or speech marks AND other associated punctuation in dialogue (comma after reported clause and punctuation inside inverted commas)	"Where is your homework?" asked the teacher. "My dog ate it," replied John. The teacher asked, "Where is your homework?"	
I can use apostrophes for contraction	E.g. I'm can't don't she's won't I'll isn't I'd	
I can use apostrophes for singular possession	An apostrophe with the letter s is used to show someone owns something Handa's hen The boy's book	
I can use apostrophes for plural possession and know the difference between possessive and plural -s	If there is more than one owner, the apostrophe goes after the s Mark went to a boys' school. John had many dogs. The dogs' home was in the garden.	



Year 4 - Grammar Skills for Writing

Grammar Skill	Example	Even better if
I can begin to use cohesive devices across paragraphs and sentences (pronouns and adverbials and repetition of nouns)	Pronouns/Possessive Pronouns Mark put on his coat and then he left his house. Adverbials First thing in the morning, I Later that day, my mum	e.g. For this reason, Meanwhile, Therefore, Fortunately, Unfortunately, The last time, Afterwards, Especially, As a rule, What is more Deliberate and controlled repetition of nouns for effect I saw a painting of a man. And no, it was not just any painting of a man; it was
I can use a variety of co- ordinating conjunctions (FANBOYS) to create cohesion across sentences	I ate the apple, and then drank water. I did my homework, but I forgot it The spider spun a web, so he could catch a fly.	Put two conjunctions in one sentence. I put on my coat and ran to school, but I was still late. Joe ate an apple but didn't drink water, so he was still thirsty.
I can use a variety of subordinating conjunctions (when /if /that /because /after /before /though /while /whereas /just as /as long as /as soon as) to create cohesion across sentences	As long as he wasn't late, John knew he wouldn't get into trouble. Just as the clock struck one, the ghost appeared. Harry was dark haired whereas his friend Ron had red hair.	Put two conjunctions in one sentence Just as the clock struck one, the ghost appeared even though the haunted house was empty.
I can use dialogue with varied 'said' verbs and adverbs I can beginning to use some	"Help me!" screamed/whispered/murmured/ mumbled/shouted/ordered/ instructed/announced/yelled/ the boy angrily/anxiously/calmly/ cautiously/enthusiastically/gently/ /kindly/politely/repeatedly. Alex told her friend to go home.	Stage directions in speech (speech, verb, action) 'Stop,' he shouted waving his stick. "Sit down!" ordered the teacher as he entered the classroom. "I'm hungry," announced Mia going to the fridge.
indirect speech in my writing I can use some expanded noun phrases with pre and post modifiers and some qualifiers to describe and specify	She complained she was tired. A few blue shirts with short sleeves Countless tall trees in the forest A couple of interesting books on the table The majority of people in the world	Add a more ambitious qualifier Lots of/A couple of/countless /numerous/a large number of/a few/ hardly an/the majority of/ the minority of/ a plethora of/legions of In describing something, use a mixture of techniques to expand nouns There were countless trees in the forest. Each tree had green leaves and bark on its trunk



I can use the perfect form (to talk about recent events/experiences)	"Where have you been?" asked Mum, "I have been trying to phone you". "I've never eaten pasta before but I have drunk coconut juice". John had visited Paris once before and he had climbed the Eifel Tower.	
I can use adverbial phrases (time, place, manner, simile) in different positions in a sentence (fronted, embedded, at the end of a clause)	At 9 o'clock, the teacher walked in. John pulled with all his might on the rope. I strode into the classroom. As quick as Usain Bolt, Jane sped after the thief.	Put 2 or 3 adverbial phrases into one sentence After lunch, I walked at a fast pace to the school. Like tired soldiers, the boys marched slowly home.
I can begin to use an -ing clause, subordinate conjunction, simile or a 2A opener to start a sentence	 -ing clause: Thinking as she walked, Liz entered into the room. -Conj: Although she was exhausted, Diana continued working. -2 Adjective: Nervous but optimistic, James sat his test. -Simile: As brave as a lion, John crept 	
I can use a modifier in front of an adverb/adjective e.g. quite, very, rather, too, so	He ran too quickly so he was exhausted. She was late because she had walked so slowly. The wolf was quite strong	
My writing contains a variety of long sentences to add description and short sentences for emphasis	The house was dark and menacing with old creaking doors and windows full of cobwebs. Inside the main entrance, was an old chiming clock, which had been in the family for hundreds of years. Being careful not to make a noise, Harry entered the house. Suddenly, the clock chimed. Harry jumped.	
I can use show not tell sentences to create atmosphere	He was shivering and his teeth clattered. He rubbed his hands together He was slouched in his chair with his head on his hands. He gave out a big yawn.	
I know which determiner (article)	Use of the forms 'a or an' according to whether the next word begins	
to use (a or an)	with a consonant or a vowel e.g. a rock, an open box	
I can use paragraphs and	Paragraphs are used to group related material.	
headings for cohesion	Headings and sub-headings aid presentation and cohesion.	
Terminology for pupils	Determiner, possessive pronoun, pronoun, adverbial	



Year 5 - Punctuation Features

Example	Even better if
A tall, dark, handsome man.	Comma can also split verbs and
	nouns e.g.
The man was tall, dark and	Nouns: I put on trousers, a shirt and
handsome.	a thick sweater.
	Verbs: I got up, had a shower,
	cleaned my teeth and got dressed.
Commas go after a fronted	Avoid Comma Splicing
adverbial/subordinate clause	(Putting a comma between two
At 3pm, Peter left for work.	independent clauses)
After finishing lunch, I visited my	Wrong: Ann got up, she got dressed.
friend.	Correct: Ann got up; she got dressed.
Used to indicate a question	Use question marks in informal
What did the Roman's wear?	dialogue after question tags or to
"How was school?" Mum asked.	show uncertainty
	"It's lovely, isn't it?"/ "I'll see you
	later?"
"Where is your homework?" asked	
the teacher.	
"My dog ate it," replied John.	
•	
nomework.	
E.g. I'm can't don't she's won't	
I'll isn't I'd	
An apostrophe with the letter s is used	d to show someone owns something
Handa's hen The cat's t	ail
The boy's book Harry's wo	and
If there is more than one owner, the apostrophe goes after the s	
Mark went to a boys' school.	
John had many dogs. The dogs' home	was in the garden
If you remove the part of the sentence in parenthesis, it still must make sense	
Harry (the boy next door) liked ice cred	ım.
Bal, who was very clever, came top of	the class.
Rome-the capital of Italy-is a place I ha	ave always wanted to visit.
You need the following ingredients: mi	lk, cheese and bread.
Harry put many things in his trunk: a w	vand, books and a wizard's hat.
WRONG	
Never use a colon to split a verb from t	the noun
E.g. You need: milk, cheese, bread is	wrong
We can use a semicolon to replace a co	o-ordinating conjunction (FANBOYS)
I went to the shops but I didn't buy any	rthing.
I went to the shops; I didn't buy anythi	ng.
You can use a semi colon to separate in	tems in a list when each item is
extended. Compare 1 (comma) and 2	(semi-colon)
1) At the circus we saw a clown, o	a lion, a fire eater and an eight-year-
old acrobat.	
2) At the circus we saw a clown juggling with swords; a lion who stood	
	hing eyes and an eight year old
acrobat.	
	A tall, dark, handsome man. The man was tall, dark and handsome. Commas go after a fronted adverbial/subordinate clause At 3pm, Peter left for work. After finishing lunch, I visited my friend. Used to indicate a question What did the Roman's wear? "How was school?" Mum asked. "Where is your homework?" asked the teacher. "My dog ate it," replied John. The teacher asked, "Where is your homework?" E.g. I'm can't don't she's won't I'll isn't I'd An apostrophe with the letter s is used Handa's hen The cat's to the boy's book Harry's wood if there is more than one owner, the cat's to the boy's book Harry's wood if there is more than one owner, the cat's to the boy's book Harry's wood if you remove the part of the sentence Harry (the boy next door) liked ice created. John had many dogs. The dogs' home If you remove the part of the sentence Harry (the boy next door) liked ice created. You need the following ingredients: mit Harry put many things in his trunk: a wood wood in the sentence is we can use a semicolon to replace a coll went to the shops but I didn't buy any I went to the shops; I didn't buy anythi you can use a semicolon to separate in extended. Compare 1 (comma) and 2 in which is the circus we saw a clown, of old acrobat. 2) At the circus we saw a clown, of old acrobat. 2) At the circus we saw a clown in a ball; a fire eater with flast on a ball; a fire eater with flast on a ball; a fire eater with flast on a fire eater with flast on a ball; a fire e



I can begin to use an ellipsis to keep the reader hanging on/show an unfinished thought Harry spoke out "I want to..." He was interrupted by the sudden bark of a dog.

She opened the door...and saw...a cake!



Year 5 - Grammar Skills for Writing

Grammar Skill	Example	Even better if
I can use cohesive devices across	Pronouns	Try using ellipsis (for omission of
paragraphs and sentences	Mark put on his coat and then he left	words)
(pronouns and adverbials, repetition	his house. The coat was one which	"Can't hear anything," she stuttered.
of nouns (lexical cohesion) and	had been given him by <mark>his</mark> wife.	Use synonyms and range of devices
ellipsis) and begin to use synonyms	Adverbials including formal	to convey a mood in a setting
to create mood	adverbials	A chilling wind blew across my face.
	Meanwhile, therefore, for this	In the distance was an eerie house,
	reason, especially, what is more, in	which made my hair stand on end. It
	particular, furthermore	was then that I heard ita blood-
	Deliberate and controlled repetition	curdling scream.
	of nouns for effect (lexical cohesion)	
	I saw a painting of a man. And no, it	
	was not just any painting of a man.	
I can use a variety of co-ordinating	Just as the clock struck one, the	Put two conjunctions in one
(FANBOYS) and subordinating	gunman entered.	sentence.
conjunctions (when / if / that /	As soon as he had finished his	After eating dinner, I washed up, but
because / after / before / though /	homework, he ran out to play.	didn't put the plates away.
while / whereas / just as / as long as	Harry was dark haired whereas his	Just as the clock struck one, she ran
/ as soon as) to improve cohesion	friend Ron had red hair.	in, whereas her friend sauntered in 5
within sentences.		minutes later.
I can stage directions in speech	"Stop," he shouted, waving his stick.	Try using dialogue to convey
(speech, verb, action)	"Sit down!" ordered the teacher as	character: "Sit down or you will be in
	he entered the classroom.	detention!" barked my new teacher
	"I'm hungry," announced Mia, going	
	to the fridge.	
I use some indirect speech in my	Alex told her friend to go home.	
writing	She complained she was tired.	
I use expanded noun phrases with	Infinite supplies of delicious ice-	Post-modify with a clause
ambitious qualifiers (several,	cream	Soldiers wearing their shining armour
countless, infinite, copious, an	Legions of soldiers in their shining	Cakes covered in beautiful icing
abundance of) and post-modifiers	armour	Young people living in the city
(prepositional phrases and clauses)	Copious amounts of tasty cakes with	In describing something, use a
	beautiful icing	mixture of techniques to expand
	A sparse number of trees with	nouns
	withered branches	There were legions of soldiers
	The majority/minority of young people in the city	wearing their shining armour. Each carried a short sword and a single
	people in the city	rectangular shield glinting in the sun.
I can use modal verbs to indicate	Can, will, might, may, must, could,	Use modal verbs in the past
degrees of possibility	should, have to	Could have, might have, should have,
degrees or possibility	I might go to park.	must have
	You must do your homework.	He might have gone out.
	Tou must do your nome work.	The butler must have done it.
I can use a variety of sentence	Fronted adverbial (time, place,	First thing in the morning, John
starters	manner)	woke.
353.5513	Expanded - ing clause	Feeling hungry, John woke.
	Simile	Like a grumpy bison, John woke.
	2A opener	Refreshed and revitalised, John woke
	Expanded -ed clause	Disturbed by a nightmare, John woke
	Subordinate conjunction	Before the sun had risen, John woke.
	Subordinate conjunction	before the Sun flau fisell, John Woke.



I can use present, past and perfect form as appropriate ensuring the correct use of first and third person	I live in London but right now I'm visiting Leeds. I have lived in Wolverhampton. I moved there in 2011.	Try using Past Perfect. Shelpa had lived in Paris before coming to Wolverhampton Jez was starving because he hadn't eaten breakfast.
I can use relative clauses with the relative pronouns who/ which/whose/that/where/when	The house, which was on the hill, was locked up. The village where I grew up was beautiful. Romans, who came from Italy, were strong fighters.	Add a relative clause to the end of the sentence. I lived in a huge house which had many rooms. I shouted at the boy who was walking on the other side of the street.
I can use adverbial phrases (time, place, manner) in different positions in a sentence (fronted, embedded, at the end of a clause)	At 9 o'clock, the teacher walked in. John pulled with all his might on the rope. I strode into the classroom.	Put 2 or 3 adverbial phrases into one sentence After lunch, I walked at a fast pace to the school. Like tired soldiers, the boys marched slowly home.
I can include metaphors, personification and onomatopoeia to create atmosphere in my writing	Metaphor: A metaphor is a comparison which is not literally true. It suggests what something is like by comparing it with something else with similar characteristics E.g. My brother is a pig. The foot of the hill. You had him in the palm of your hand. My teacher is a dragon. His room was a tip. She is a shining star. Personification: This is when you give human qualities to an object or an animal. E.g. The wind howled in the night. Lightning danced across the sky. The moon played hide and seek with the clouds. My flowers were begging for water. Onomatopoeia: This is when a word's pronunciation imitates its sound. E.g. He banged on the drum. A dog can bark. The bees buzzed. The clanging pots and pans. Clap your hands. The clock was ticking. He dripped his books with a thud.	
My writing contains a variety of long sentences to add description and short sentences for emphasis	The house was dark and menacing with old creaking doors and windows full of cobwebs. Inside the main entrance, was an old chiming clock, which had been in the family for hundreds of years. Being careful not to make a noise, Harry entered the house. Suddenly, the clock chimed. Harry jumped.	
I can use show not tell sentences to create atmosphere	He was shivering and his teeth clattered. He rubbed his hands together He was slouched in his chair with his head on his hands. He gave out a big yawn.	
I can modify words using prefixes and suffixes	I can change nouns or adjectives into verbs by using suffixes (e.g, –ate; –ise; – ify) I can use verb prefixes (e.g. dis–, de–, mis–, over– and re–)	
I can use paragraphs and other layout features for cohesion	Paragraphs are used to group related Layout devices (for example, headings tables) help to structure text and prov	, sub-headings, columns, bullets, or ide cohesion.
Terminology for Pupils	modal verb, relative pronoun, relative cohesion, ambiguity	clause, parenthesis, bracket, dash,



Year 6 - Punctuation Features

Feature	Example	Even better if
I can use commas in a list	A tall, dark, handsome man.	Comma can also split verbs and nouns
		Nouns: I put on trousers, a shirt and a
	The man was tall, dark and	thick sweater.
	handsome.	Verbs: I got up, had a shower, cleaned my
		teeth and got dressed.
I can use commas for clarity	Commas go after a fronted	Avoid Comma Splicing
	adverbial/Subordinate clause	(Putting a comma between two
	At 3pm, Peter left for work.	independent clauses)
	After finishing lunch, I visited my	Wrong: Ann got up, she got dressed
	friend.	Correct: Ann got up; she got dressed
I can use an exclamation mark	Use an exclamation mark in speec	h when you want to show the speaker
	raises their voice: "Help!" he cried.	
	Use in exclamation sentences begi	nning with <mark>what</mark> or <mark>how</mark> .
	e.g. What a wonderful day! /What	a wonderful day I had!
	How beautiful! /How beautiful it is	<i>:</i> !
I can use question marks	Used to indicate a question	Use question marks in informal dialogue
·	What did the Roman's wear?	after question tags or to show
	"How was school?" Mum asked.	uncertainty or informality
		"It's lovely, isn't it?"/ "I'll see you later?"
I can use inverted commas or	"Where is your homework?" asked	
speech marks in dialogue with	"My dog ate it," replied John.	
correct speech punctuation and	"What?" cried the teacher. "Rubbi	sh!"
new speaker new line	John shrugged his shoulders, "Wel	l that's what happened."
I can use apostrophes for	E.g. I'm can't don't she's wo	
contraction		
I can use apostrophes for singular	An apostrophe with the letter s is used to show someone owns something	
and plural possession (and	-	ıt's tail
understand the difference with	The boy's book Harry's wand If there is more than one owner, the apostrophe goes after the s	
plural –s)		
. ,	Mark went to a boys' school.	
	John had many dogs. The dogs' ha	ome was in the garden
I can use punctuation for	If you remove the part of the sentence in parenthesis, it still must make sense	
parenthesis (commas, brackets,	Harry (the boy next door) liked ice	
dashes) and appropriately for	Bal, who was very clever, came top	o of the class.
formality of piece (dashes-	Rome-the capital of Italy-is a place	-
informal; brackets - formal)		·
I can use colons	You need the following ingredients	: Use a colon to separate two
	milk, cheese, bread	independent clauses
	Harry put many things in his trunk	
	wand, books, a wizard's hat	amplifies the first
	WRONG	Some people do their best work at
	Never use a colon to split a verb fr	
	a noun.	owls'.
	E.g. You need: milk, cheese, bread	It's been snowing for three days: the
	is wrong	roads around here aren't very safe
	_	for driving.
I can use a semi-colon to split two independent clauses. We can use a semicolon to replace a co-ordinating conjunction (Figure 1) in the shops but I didn't buy anything.		
		- · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
	I went to the shops; I didn't buy an	, -
	• .	ate items in a list when each item is
	extended. Compare 1 (comma) an	



	 At the circus we saw a clown, a lion, a fire eater and an eight-year-old acrobat. At the circus we saw a clown juggling with swords; a lion who stood on a ball; a fire eater with flashing eyes and an eight year old acrobat.
I can use hyphens	To make compound nouns e.g. mother-in-law, t-shirt, dry-cleaning, fifty-one To make compound adjectives: e.g. snow-white, cold-blooded, light-hearted, far-fetched, low-cut
I can use dashes	Parenthesis Mo-who is the current Olympic champion-won the race. Repetition "St-st-op!" stammered the boy. Before a final comment "Yes-I will do it," agreed Lucy.
I can use an ellipsis to keep the reader hanging on/show an unfinished thought	Harry spoke out "I want to…" He was interrupted by the sudden bark of a dog. She opened the door…and saw…a cake!



Year 6 - Grammar Skills for Writing

Feature	Example	Even better if
I can create atmosphere	Detailed settings with multi-	Using metaphor and personification:
•	clausal sentences and	Metaphor: Each blade of grass was a tiny
	expanded noun phrases	bayonet pointed firmly at our bare feet. I was
		lost in a sea of nameless faces
	Use the 5 senses: What can be	Personification: The wind howled in the night.
	seen, heard, felt etc	Lightning danced across the sky. The moon
		played hide and seek with the clouds. My
		flowers were begging for water.
I create atmosphere using	Legions of soldiers in their	In describing something, use a mixture of
expanded noun phrases with	shining armour	techniques to expand nouns
ambitious qualifiers (several,	Copious amounts of tasty cakes	There were legions of soldiers wearing their
countless, infinite, copious,	covered in beautiful icing	shining armour. Each carried a short sword in
an abundance of,) and post-	The majority/minority of young	whatever was their stronger hand, and a single
modifiers (prepositional	people living in the city	rectangular shield glinting in the sun. They
phrases and cluses)	Infinite supplies of delicious ice	wore leather sandals to protect their feet and
	cream	had helmets made of the strongest Roman
		bronze.
I can integrate dialogue to	"Sit down or you will be in	Use a variety of dialogue techniques to convey
convey character (using	detention!" barked my new	character
correct speech punctuation	(obviously strict) teacher.	The words they say: "Come here!"/"Would you
and new speaker new line)	What do the different ways of	mind coming over here?"
	asking for a drink say about	How they say it (verbs) instead of said e.g.
	character?	bellowed, whispered, sang, sneered
	"Would you mind getting me a	How they say it (adverbs) -angrily, timidly,
	drink dear?"	defiantly
	"Drink! Now!"	Voice description (adjectives) in a
	"PIlleeeaaase can I have a	commanding/cold/hostile/warm voice
	drink?"	Actions as they talk: wagging a finger, as he
		thumped the table, putting an arm round her.
I can integrate dialogue to	Staging directions in Speech	Use dialogue to describe a setting or some
advance action	(Speech, verb, action)	action:
	"Stop!" he shouted, waving his	"The moon's full and bright tonight," whispered
	stick.	Ali.
	"Sit down!" ordered the	"Look up there. There's a single light shining in
	teacher as she entered the	the top window of the old house," replied Eric "What's that?"
	classroom.	
	"I'm hungry," announced Mia	"Someone's coming" stammered Eric
	going to the fridge.	grabbing Ernie's arm.
	gg to the jage.	"Run!" they screamed together taking off down
I can vary the position of the	"Whara is your hamawark?" ask	the old path.
-	"Where is your homework?" asked the teacher. John took a deep breath and replied, "My dog ate it."	
speaker in the dialogue	"What? Rubbish!"	meu, wy dog ale il.
(Before the dialogue/after the dialogue/between the		sponded John. "We haven't the money for dog
dialogue/not there for	food."	sponded John. We haven time money for dog
cohesion and flow)	Jood.	
conesion and now)		



I can select vocabulary and	The key is to maintain the	Change formality when you express facts and
grammatical structures that	level of formality throughout	opinions.
reflect the level of formality	the piece	The lionesses work together to hunt and can
required in most paragraphs	Formal: More advanced	bring down large prey such as water
required in most paragraphs	grammar (passive, perfect).	buffalo. You certainly wouldn't be wanting to
	longer sentences.	taking a stroll when a pride is out hunting then!
		taking a stron when a pride is out numbing them:
	subject/genre Specific	
	Vocabulary	
	Informal: Slang, contractions,	
l and and an arriva	idioms, short sentences.	
I can use and recognise	The subjunctive form can be	
subjunctive forms in very	used for giving advice or	
formal writing	talking about unreal situations	
	E.g. If I were you; Were they	
	to; Were I a little bit taller, I	
	would	
Using a range of cohesive	-	and then <mark>he</mark> left <mark>his</mark> house. The coat was <mark>one</mark>
devices, including adverbials,	which had been given him by his wife.	
within and across sentences		
and paragraphs	Adverbials: First, mum and I cleaned the kitchen of all the stew all over the floor	
	and walls, then washed the dishes and finally we put them away. Meanwhile,	
	Dad and my sister re-potted all the plants.	
	Conjunctions: A range of co-ordinating and subordinating conjunctions	
	Lexical Cohesion:	
	Repetition of a key noun/phrase: I saw a painting of a man. And no, it was not	
	just any painting of a man.	
	Use synonyms to convey a mood in a setting	
	A chilling wind blow across my face. In the distance was an eerie house which	
	made my hair stand on end. It was then that I heard ita blood-curdling scream.	
	Ellipsis(Missing out words ∧∧) to aid flow	
	Some plants looked better than ever (though other ones didn't! ///)	
	"AA Can't hear anything," she stuttered.	
	In dialogue, remove speech verbs to enhance the flow of speech	
	"I didn't do it!"	
	"But, I saw you."	
	"You must have been mistaken."	
Modal verbs used	Can, will, might, may, must, could	d, should, have to
appropriately to express	I might go to park. You must do y	
possibility		
	Use modal verbs in the past	
	Use modal verbs in the past Could have, might have, should h	nave, must have



We use the passive when we do not know or do not say who has completed an action. We also use it when we want to place greater emphasis on the action rather than the person/people who do it.

It is very common in formal language and can easily be seen in explanation texts. E.g. The butter is spread on the toast.

Lig. The butter is spread on the todst.		
How Passive is formed?	Example sentences	
The present simple: is/ are +	Lions are found in Africa	
past participle	The market is held every Monday.	
	is thought/believed to be	
The present perfect: has/ have +	"I have been given a detention," complained	
been + past participle	the mum glumly.	
	A leisure centre has been located in	
	Wolverhampton for 20 years.	
The past simple: was/ were +	The Spartans, who were known for their	
past participle	fighting, lived	
	The shop, which was situated to the north of	
	the town, sold	
	As soon as the bags were packed, we jumped	
	into the car	
	Finally, the work was done/completed	
The past perfect: had + been +	The room looked like it had been hit by a	
past participle	bomb/	
	Justice had been done.	
	Had he been seen?	
Modals:	The cathedral <i>could be</i> seen from miles away.	
Can/may/will etc +be +past	The victim, who could have been you or me,	
participle	was taken to the	
Can/may/will etc +have been	It can be argued	
+past participle		

I can use a wide range of clause structures, sometimes varying their position within the sentence

Different Sentence Openers

Different Sentence Openers		
Fronted adverbial (time, place,	First thing in the morning, John woke	
manner)		
Expanded - ing clause	Feeling hungry, John woke.	
Simile	Like a grumpy bison, John woke.	
2A opener	Refreshed and revitalised, John woke	
Expanded -ed clause	Disturbed by a nightmare, John woke	
Subordinate conjunction	Before the sun had risen, John woke.	

Relative Clauses (Embedded and ending a sentence)

My sister, who is missing her magazines, has demanded we go to the Kalahari Desert, which is too hot for bears.

Multi-Clausal Sentences

After eating dinner, I washed up but didn't put the plates away.

Just as the clock struck one, she ran in, **whereas** her friend sauntered in 5 minutes later.

Integrating short sentences with long multicausal sentences

The house was dark and menacing with old creaking doors and windows full of cobwebs. Inside the main entrance, was an old chiming clock, which had been in the family for hundreds of years. Being careful not to make a noise, Harry entered the house. Suddenly, from somewhere in the dark, the clock chimed. Harry jumped. He looked...waited. When he was sure he was alone, he headed further into the house.



Using adverbs/adverbials	At 9 o'clock, the teacher walked in.	
effectively to add detail,	John pulled with all his might on the rope.	
qualification and precision	I strode into the classroom.	
	As quick as Usain Bolt, Jane sped after the thief.	
	Put 2 or 3 adverbial phrases into one sentence	
	After lunch, I walked at a fast pace to the school.	
	Like tired soldiers, the boys marched slowly home.	
I can use paragraphs and	Paragraphs are used to group related material.	
other layout features for	Layout devices (for example, headings, sub-headings, columns, bullets, or tables)	
cohesion	help to structure text and provide cohesion.	
Word level	ord level Recognising the difference between informal vocabulary and vocabulary	
	appropriate for formal speech and writing (for example, find out - discover; ask	
	for - request; go in – enter)	
	Realising how words are related by meaning as synonyms and antonyms (for	
	example, big, large, little).	
Terminology for Pupils	subject, object, active, passive, synonym, antonym, ellipsis, hyphen, colon, semi-	
	colon, bullet points	