

SPaG Terminology

Key Stage 1

KS1 SPaG Terms

SPaG – What does it mean? What does it stand for?

Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar. The children are taught this lesson every week in key stage 1, either as part of their English lesson discreetly or as a stand-alone lesson which the children will know as SPaG.

We appreciate that the amount of different SPaG terminology used in school can be difficult to understand. Some of these terms are introduced in Year 1 (highlighted in pink) and then some terms are introduced and used more in Year 2 (highlighted in blue).

Noun – a noun is the name of something. This can be a place, a person or an object.

Common Noun – is the general name of a person (e.g. boy), place (e.g. town) or object (e.g. table).

Proper Noun – is a specific place (e.g. Stoke-on-Trent) or person (e.g. Thomas) and needs a capital letter.

lion, table, chair, Stoke-on-Trent, England,
Africa, Mrs Thursfield, Sophie, pencil

Adjective – a word to describe a **noun**. E.g. The **beautiful** flower.

huge, small, beautiful, yellow, flat, loud

Verb – a word to describe an action. E.g. The boy **ate** a red apple.

jump, hop, skip, run, eat, draw, read, cook

Adverb – a word to describe the how the action is done. E.g. The girl ran quickly.

slowly, carefully, quickly, loudly, quietly

A noun phrase – a sentence where 1 adjective is used to describe a noun.

The **beautiful** butterfly flew around the garden.

An expanded noun phrase – a sentence which has 2 **adjectives** to describe a noun.

The **huge, fierce** lion chased after the timid mouse.

A list sentence – where you list more than one object using a comma and then the word and before the last object.

At the zoo there were lions, elephants and tigers.

Conjunctions – these words join two shorter sentences.

because, and, but, so, or, when, if, that

Prefixes – groups of letters added to the beginning of words.

un – for example unhappy.

Suffixes – group of letters added to the end of words.

ful (helpful) ment (enjoyment) ness (illness)
less (careless), ly (slowly)

Contractions – words formed by replacing a missing letter with an apostrophe.

Cannot – can't he is – he's
It is – it's do not – don't

Statement – an information sentence.

The ship sailed across the ocean.

Command – an order or an instruction.

Do your homework. Sit on the chair. Pick up
the litter.

Question – a question can be answered.

What is your name? How old are you?
Where are you going?

Exclamation sentences – An exclamation sentence must start with what or how and must contain a verb. (verbs underlined)

What an amazing machine you've
decorated!

How did you paint something so
spectacular!

Apostrophes for possession – an apostrophe for possession is used to say when something belongs to somebody. The apostrophe goes before the 's' if the object belongs to one person.

Chloe's book	Tom's bag
Sam's football	Nancy's clothes

The **boys** were running on the football pitch.

No apostrophe is needed in the word 'boys' as they do not own anything. In this sentence the word 'boys' is a plural, meaning there is more than one boy.

The **boy's** car was racing around the track.

In this sentence an apostrophe is needed to show that the car belongs (is possessed) by one boy.

Plurals

Adding s and es to words to change them from singular to plural.

For example – one cat – two cats

One box – three boxes.

If a noun ends in s, ss, sh, ch, x or z add es for any other noun endings just add s.