Glossary of Year 2 Terminology

English Appendix 2: Vocabulary, grammar and punctuation

The grammar of our first language is learnt naturally and implicitly through interactions with other speakers and from reading. Explicit knowledge of grammar is, however, very important, as it gives us more conscious control and choice in our language. Building this knowledge is best achieved through a focus on grammar within the teaching of reading, writing and speaking. Once pupils are familiar with a grammatical concept [for example 'modal verb'], they should be encouraged to apply and explore this concept in the grammar of their own speech and writing and to note where it is used by others. Young pupils, in particular, use more complex language in speech than in writing, and teachers should build on this, aiming for a smooth transition to sophisticated writing.

The table shows when concepts should be introduced first, not necessarily when they should be completely understood. It is very important, therefore, that the content in earlier years be revisited in subsequent years to consolidate knowledge and build on pupils' understanding.

The grammatical terms that pupils should learn are labelled as 'terminology for pupils'. They should learn to recognise and use the terminology through discussion and practice.

Year 2: Detail of content to be introduced (statutory requirement)		
Word	Formation of nouns using suffixes such as <i>-ness</i> , <i>-er</i> and by compounding [for example, <i>whiteboard</i> , <i>superman</i>]	
	Formation of adjectives using suffixes such as -ful, -less	
	(A fuller list of suffixes can be found on page Error! Bookmark not defined. in the year 2 spelling section in English Appendix 1)	
	Use of the suffixes – <i>er</i> , – <i>est</i> in adjectives and the use of –ly in Standard English to turn adjectives into adverbs	
Sentence	Subordination (using <i>when</i> , <i>if</i> , <i>that</i> , <i>because</i>) and co-ordination (using or, and, but)	
	Expanded noun phrases for description and specification [for example, the blue butterfly, plain flour, the man in the moon]	
	How the grammatical patterns in a sentence indicate its function as a statement, question, exclamation or command	
Text	Correct choice and consistent use of present tense and past tense throughout writing	
	Use of the progressive form of verbs in the present and past tense to mark actions in progress [for example, <i>she is drumming</i> , <i>he was shouting</i>]	

Year 2: Detail of content to be introduced (statutory requirement)		
Punctuation	Use of capital letters, full stops, question marks and exclamation marks to demarcate sentences Commas to separate items in a list Apostrophes to mark where letters are missing in spelling and to mark	
	singular possession in nouns [for example, the girl's name]	
Terminology for pupils	noun, noun phrase statement, question, exclamation, command compound, suffix adjective, adverb, verb tense (past, present) apostrophe, comma	

All information from The national curriculum in England

Key stages 1 and 2 framework document

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