



ENGLISH -SPELLING, PUNCTUATION AND GRAMMAR (SPaG) WORKSHOP



WHAT IS GRAMMAR?

"Grammar is the business of taking a language to pieces to see how it works." - Professor David Crystal

Grammar provides the 'rules' for joining words and phrases into sentences. The function of a word or phrase within a sentence is key to understanding grammar so a good place to start is to encourage children to love reading and to experience quality written language.



Grammatical knowledge:

- Knowing the function of words in sentences and how sentences work and are tied together.

Grammatical skills:

- Choosing the right words and phrases
- Constructing and varying sentences
- Linking texts together (cohesion)

Teach the knowledge through the skills



A LITTLE TEST TO WARM YOU UP ...

THE GREAT NEVER-HEARD-THE-WORD GRAMMAR TEST

	X Never heard before	??? Heard – not sure of meaning- don't want to stand up and explain	Know what it means: can stand up and explain its function , giving and example within a sentence.
Subordinate clause			
Adverbial			
Preposition			
Determiner			



7 Which option correctly introduces the **subordinate clause** in the sentence below?

Jay wanted to go to the party _____ he wasn't feeling very well.

Tick one.

furthermore

☐

in addition

☐

otherwise

☐

even though

☐

5 Circle **all** the **determiners** in the sentence below.

There wasn't much juice left in the fridge, so I bought a new bottle.

4 Rewrite the sentence below so that it begins with the **adverbial**. Use only the same words, and remember to punctuate your answer correctly.

We turned off the lights before we left.

☐
1 mark

☐
1 mark

8 Tick one box in each row to show whether the word before is used as a **subordinating conjunction** or as a **preposition**.

Sentence	<u>before</u> used as a subordinating conjunction	<u>before</u> used as a preposition
We left the cinema <u>before</u> the end of the film.		
The train ticket is cheaper <u>before</u> 9:00 in the morning.		
I brush my teeth <u>before</u> I have breakfast.		

☐
1 mark



We know more than we thought

1. The old man jumped quickly over the rusty fence.
2. He jumped over it.

Where are the nouns - what is their job?

Where are the adjectives - what is their job?

Where is the verb - what is its job?

Where is the adverb - what is its job?

Where are the pronouns - what is their job?

Where is the preposition - what is its job?

And 'the' is a ...?

Is subject, verb, object the typical order of a sentence in English?



We know more than we thought

1. The old man jumped quickly over the rusty fence.
2. He jumped over it.
(subject) (verb) (object)

nouns - name the things talked about

adjectives - describe the nouns

verbs - say what the action is

adverbs - describe the verb

pronouns - stand in the place of a noun

prepositions - tell you the position of the action

determiners - pin down the noun precisely

Typical sentence order in English is subject (carries out action), verb, object (action is done to it).



WHAT DO GaPS QUESTIONS INCLUDE AT KS2?

- Paper 1: Grammar, punctuation & vocabulary
- 50 marks (45 minutes)
- Sentence grammar through both identifying and writing sentences that are grammatically correct
- Punctuation through identifying and writing sentences that are correctly punctuated
- Vocabulary through identifying and writing sentences in which a word is used correctly
- Paper 2: Spelling
- 20 marks (approx. 15 minutes, read to the children)
- 20 words to spell.



WHAT DO GaPS QUESTIONS INCLUDE AT KS2?

- Nouns, verbs, adjectives, conjunctions, pronouns (including possessive and relative pronouns), adverbs, adverbials, prepositions, subject and object.
- Statements, questions, commands and exclamations.
- Relative and noun clauses, tenses, modal verbs and subordinating and coordinating conjunctions.
- Capital letters, full stops, question marks, exclamation marks, commas (in lists, to clarify meaning and after fronted adverbials).

Let's eat grandpa.
Let's eat, grandpa.

**correct punctuation can
save a person's life.**



WHAT DO GaPS QUESTIONS INCLUDE AT KS2?

- Inverted commas, apostrophes, colons, semi-colons, parenthesis, dashes, hyphens and bullet points.
- Synonyms and antonyms; prefixes and suffixes.
- Standard English, formal and informal vocabulary.



verb
adverb
noun
pronoun
adjective
vowel
consonant

Spelling

1. Sara wanted to be an explorer and discover new lands.
2. The spy was sent on a secret mission.
3. For PE lessons, your clothes should be loose and comfortable.
4. The sign showed which way to go.
5. China is a large country.
6. Laura won a medal for gymnastics.

WHAT DO GaPS QUESTIONS INCLUDE AT KS1?

- Paper 1: Spelling
- 20 marks (approx. 15 minutes)
- 20 words to spell.
- Similar spelling format to Y6 spelling test.
- Spellings will be read by the teacher in contextualised sentences (no picture format).
- A script will be provided for the teacher to read from.
- Children are to write the missing word (spelling) in the sentence.



WHAT DO GaPS QUESTIONS INCLUDE AT KS1?

- Paper 2: Grammar, punctuation & vocabulary
- 20 marks (approx. 20 minutes)
- Short answer questions - not contextualised.
- Stand alone questions
eg contractions (don't, I'm), plurals, prefixes, suffixes, sentence types, punctuation.
- These tests are designed to test the nuts and bolts of writing.

Let's eat grandpa.
Let's eat, grandpa.

**correct punctuation can
save a person`s life.**



NOW, YOU MAY WISH TO...

- Go through and see the children working through some activities.
- Take a look at and try some sample questions.
- Try an online quiz to test your knowledge of GaPS

<https://global.oup.com/education/primary/quiz/grammar-quiz/?region=uk>

- <http://sats2017.uk/quiz-would-you-pass-sats-english-grammar/>

