

## Glossary of Terms Used in Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar Teaching in Primary Schools

Year 4	
Abstract noun	A feeling or concept which cannot be touched, such as love, happiness, education.
Adverbial phrase	A phrase built around an <b>adverb</b> - for example 'as quickly as possible', 'very rudely'.
Article	Words which tell us if a <b>noun</b> is general or specific. 'The' is called the 'definite article' and refers to specific nouns: 'The man's hat is blue'. The 'indefinite articles' are 'a' and 'an', referring to general nouns: 'A cow eats grass'. See <b>determiner</b> .
Common noun	Describes a class of objects (e.g. dog, man, day) which do not have a <b>capital letter</b> (e.g. Rover, John, Tuesday). See also <b>proper nouns</b> .
Concrete noun	Something you can touch. For example, 'bed', 'pencil', 'cat'. Can be <b>common nouns</b> , or <b>proper nouns</b> that need a <b>capital letter</b> . For example, 'Mr Jones', 'Blackpool Tower'.
Determiner	A word that introduces a <b>noun</b> and identifies it in detail. This may be a <b>definite</b> or <b>indefinite article</b> (a, an, the), a demonstrative (this, that), possessive (your, my), a quantifier (some, many) or a number (six, ten, half).
Fronted adverbial	Words or phrases used at the beginning of a <b>sentence</b> , used like <b>adverbs</b> to describe the action that follows. For example, 'With a happy smile, she skipped into the room'.
Imperative verb	A <b>verb</b> that stands alone without a <b>subject noun</b> or <b>pronoun</b> in a <b>command</b> .
Imperative article	See <b>article</b> .
Phrase	A small group of words that does not contain a <b>verb</b> .
Possessive pronoun	A <b>pronoun</b> which is used to show ownership. Some can be used on their own ('mine', 'yours', 'his', 'hers', 'ours', 'theirs'), whilst others need to be attached to a noun ('my', 'your', 'her', 'our', 'their', 'whose').

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Personal pronoun	A <b>pronoun</b> which replaces a person, place or thing. For example, 'I', 'you', 'he', 'she', 'we', 'they', 'it', 'me', 'him', 'her', 'us', 'them'.
Prepositional phrase	A <b>phrase</b> which contains a <b>preposition</b> . For example, 'under the carpet', 'behind the door', 'after school'.
Pronoun	Any word which can be used to replace a noun. See <b>personal pronoun</b> , <b>possessive pronoun</b> .
Proper noun	A <b>noun</b> which names a particular person, place or thing. For example, 'John', 'London', 'France', 'Monday', 'December'.