



## English Core Knowledge

### Year 7

This booklet contains the core knowledge students will need to become confident readers and writers.

The key areas we study in Year 7 are:

- An introduction to reading and writing
- The English Language Timeline
- The Modern Novel
- Poetry: Character and Voice
- Point of View Writing
- Descriptive Writing

Grammar, spelling, sentences and punctuation run through every area of study to ensure technical accuracy.

- Students are expected to learn a selection of this core knowledge independently and for homework to ensure they don't have gaps in their knowledge.
- Teachers will carry out regular mini-tests and quizzes to check pupil progress.
- We suggest that students work together with friends and family to help them to achieve the milestones along the journey of success.
- To assist students in their preparation for assessments and the end of year exam, we have developed a website for students and parents to access from home. Here you will find a digital copy of this booklet, suggested reading lists, spelling quizzes, helpful linked websites and other resources teachers may suggest to support our students through their first year at Aylsham High School.
- All of this knowledge feeds in to the AQA English Language and English Literature GCSEs. For further details, please follow these links.
- Language: <http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-language-8700/specification-at-a-glance>
- Literature: <http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/english/gcse/english-literature-8702/specification-at-a-glance>

## Reading and Writing Taster Unit

This taster unit is designed to help you to understand the way we approach reading and writing in high school. You will have the opportunity to read a range of short texts from the nineteenth, twentieth and centuries. You'll learn how writers craft their writing to affect their audiences.

	Question	Answer	Example
1	How does <b>fiction</b> differ from <b>non-fiction</b> ?	Fiction is invention whilst non-fiction is about real life. Fiction includes plays, novels and stories. Non-fiction includes leaflets, blogs, reviews, articles, letters etc...	<i>Hetty Feather</i> is a fictional character invented by Jacqueline Wilson whereas an <b>article</b> on poverty in Victorian England is a non-fiction text.
2	Which texts belong to <b>literary non-fiction</b> ?	Literary non-fiction is the name for non-fiction texts which use the same techniques as fiction texts e.g. a narrator, a plot or theme.	Diaries, monologues, travel writing, biography, or autobiography. An example is the <i>Diary of Anne Frank</i> .
3	What is a <b>writer's technique</b> ?	The 'technique' is the tool a writer chooses from their toolbox. In this box there are different sentences, adverbs, similes and more. Every technique is chosen for a reason: for its effect.	At the end of her poem ' <i>Catrin</i> ', <i>Gillian Clarke</i> chooses to use the metaphor ' <b>the tight red rope of love</b> ' to show she feels to her daughter and how they struggle, as in a tug-o-war.
4	Why do students study the <b>writer's craft</b> ?	The <i>craft</i> is the techniques writers choose to share their ideas on the world. We study them to foster a love of reading, understand the power of writing and to be better writers ourselves.	A novelist may choose to use a 1 <sup>st</sup> person narrator to show a character's feelings or perhaps use powerful verbs to make a fight-scene seem exciting.
5	What do we mean when talk about the <b>writer's language</b> ?	This is a clear way of talking about the sentences, phrases and words writers choose.	<b><i>'And I like large parties. They're so intimate.'</i></b> (Simple sentences to share thoughts and the noun 'intimate' to add a personal touch.)
6	What do we mean when talk about <b>structure</b> ?	The 'structure' is the way the text hangs together; it looks at the order of ideas.	Sometimes ideas are chronological, or they can be withheld or even repeated.
7	Why do writers choose a <b>perspective</b> ?	They want to create an effect e.g. a child's view can be touching, a villain's view can be chilling.	Ted Hughes: ' <b><i>I kill where I please because it is all mine</i></b> ' is told from the hawk's viewpoint.
8	How can writers add <b>interest</b> to their creative writing?	They can deliberately adapt their <b>tone, style and register</b> to get a reaction from their readers.	The Joker: ' <b><i>We stopped checking for monsters under the bed when we realised they are inside us.</i></b> ' Here the conversational tone unsettles readers.
9	How do writers make their ideas <b>coherent</b> ?	'Coherent' ideas are those which are connected together clearly. Pronouns, time connectives or discourse markers may be used.	' <b>Josh</b> often became lost; <b>he</b> was easily distracted..' The pronoun 'he' helps the reader to link back to the character 'Josh.'
10	Why is it important to have <b>accurate spelling and punctuation</b> ?	We need to write clearly for our readers. Accurate writing is taken more seriously by its readers, it carries more weight and authority.	' <i>She should of been here by now</i> ' is not accurate whereas ' <i>she should have been here by now</i> ' is. Can you spot the error?

## The British Timeline

The timeline traces how our language has adapted over the centuries to reflect the experiences of the people who lived in England at the time.

	Question	Answer	Example
1	When did we use <b>Early Modern English?</b> (EME)	The English we used from the beginning of the Tudor period (1500 –ish) until around 1800. Shakespeare was a key writer of this age.	The great vowel shift changed pronunciation. <b>Lyf</b> was ‘leef’ and became ‘life’.
2	Why were <b>coined words</b> typical of this period?	A coined word - an invented word – was largely down to the master inventor William Shakespeare.	Academy, lonely, bump, champion, rant, zany – the list includes more than new words.
3	Who were the <b>Romantics</b> and what did they stand for?	A group of poets: Shelley, Wordsworth, Coleridge, Bryon and Keats. They stood for freedom, passion and nature.	<b><i>‘I wandered <u>lonely</u> as a cloud that floats on high o’er vale and hills’</i></b> by William Wordsworth.
4	When were the Romantics writing <b>poetry?</b>	They wrote their poems from around 1785 to the 1850s to challenge authority and champion individualism.	<b><i>That I might drink, and leave the world unseen,</i></b> by John Keats
5	When did we use <b>Modern English (ModE)?</b>	From around 1800 to the present day. The main influences were the industrial revolution and the British Empire.	<b>Toffee</b> (1825) came from the Creole for a mixture of sugar and molasses. <b>Bridge</b> (1843) to name means of travel across ravines or rivers.
6	How did the <b>Industrial Revolution</b> change our language?	New technological words came into the language. With lots of movement, the language became more relaxed about rules.	
7	How is <b>modernism</b> characterised?	An early C20th writing movement, which rebelled against romanticism to focus on the inner person. Writers liked to experiment as there were no-longer rules to follow.	<b><i>‘Oh, do not ask, “what is it?”’</i></b> from a poem by TS Eliot. It has no traditional rhythm or rhyme and gives us no answers to life.
8	What do modernist writers use the <b>stream-of-consciousness?</b>	The stream-of-consciousness is an automatic style of writing which can easily record thoughts as they occur.	Virginia Woolf wrote ‘The Waves’ in the style of the stream-of-consciousness. She had a room crowded with thoughts with no-one saying a word.
9	What is <b>post-modernism?</b>	Writing, which took place after World War 2, focused more on fragments and unreliable narrators to reflect the more disorganised world we live in.	
10	What has been the main influence on ModE today?	Technology through text speak, social media memes and new products.	<b>BRB = Be Right Back</b> <b>Bestie = a best friend</b> <b>Ibeacon = Apple navigation system</b>

## Twentieth Century Classic Novel – Worlds Apart

The twentieth century novel was influenced by the changes in beliefs and political ideas after the events of the First World War and the disappearance of the British Empire. They tend to look more to the internal thoughts of characters and their reactions to the difficulties people experience.

	Question	Answer	Example
1	When was the <b>20<sup>th</sup> century</b> ?	1901-1999	1901-1999
2	What is the <b>literary canon</b> ?	A list of novels, poems, plays and stories by well-respected writers.	<i>Animal Farm by George Orwell.</i> <i>The Narnia series by CS Lewis</i>
3	What is the <b>classic novel</b> ?	A book which stands the test of time and appeals to many people.	<i>The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe, by CS Lewis.</i>
4	What is <b>context</b> ?	Each book is set against what was happening in the world at the time. It shares the thoughts and feelings people held at that time.	Evacuees like the children in <i>The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe</i> were a typical feature of England during World War Two (1939-1945).
5	How is a <b>novel</b> different from a short story?	Novels have time to explore the full three-act structure. They can develop the characters.	<i>'My father's family name being Pirrip, and my Christian name Philip ... I called myself Pip.'</i> From 'Great Expectations'.
6	Why do writers use <b>allegories</b> ?	Writers use a story within a story to add different layers of meaning to their ideas.	Animal Farm is a story about farm animals which reveals what happened in the Russian Revolution of 1917.
7	What is a <b>theme or idea</b> ?	They are the life lessons and the views that lie beneath the surface of a text.	The story of Romeo and Juliet is about two lovers who meet and die. The themes are about fate, independence and the power of love.
8	When can <b>foreshadowing</b> be useful?	When writers want to give a hint of what is to come, they foreshadow.	<i>"Poor aunt always thinks that they will come back some day"</i> foreshadows the reaction of the aunt later in the story.
9	When can <b>flashback</b> be used in a story?	When the writer wants to interrupt the sequence of events with a scene which adds context or detail.	Mr. Lockwood has a troubling dream about a dead girl called Cathy. A flashback can be a dream or memory.
10	Why do writers use <b>ambiguity</b> ?	Ambiguity is when a word or phrase which has more than one meaning. It encourages different interpretations.	John went to the <u>bank</u> . 'Bank' could mean a financial place or the side of the river.

## Poetry

The poetry we study in year 7 looks at how interesting characters experience life, such as a hunchbacked tramp in a park. It also looks at how relationships between family members can change over time.

	Question	Answer	Example
1	How is a <b>poem</b> different to other types of literature?	A poem is a form of writing in verse, which sometimes has a metre or a rhythm.	<i>“On either side the river lie Long fields of barley and of rye,”</i> ‘The Lady of Shalott’ by Tennyson.
2	What is a <b>stanza</b> ?	A clear unit of a poem, like a paragraph in a story.	<i>“My father worked with a horse-plough, His shoulders globed like a full sail strung Between the shafts and the furrow. The horse strained at his clicking tongue.”</i>
3	Why do writers use a <b>persona</b> ?	The character a poet invents to share their ideas on what it is like to be human.	<i>“I gave commands;/ Then all smiles stopped together.”</i> The cruel voice of Duke Ferrara in ‘My Last Duchess’.
4	What does AMITY stand for?	AMITY is a useful way to organise your analysis of a poem.	About, Mood, Ideas, Techniques, Your view.
5	What can writers do with the poetic <b>form</b> ?	The form is the set of rules followed by poets e.g. a sonnet, elegy, rondeau ...	<b>Sonnet</b> = a 16-line poem with a clincher of the argument in the final 2 lines.
6	What do we mean when say what the poem is <b>about</b> ?	What is happening: the story of the poem.	The poem Catrin is about the loving but difficult relationship of a mother and daughter. It begins by talking about....
7	What is <b>mood</b> ?	The thoughts and feelings in the poem.	<i>“I can remember you, our first Fierce confrontation,”</i> The nostalgic feelings of the mother in ‘Catrin’ by Gillian Clarke.
8	What are the poets’ <b>ideas</b> ?	The main views poet wants to say about an issue, e.g. homelessness.	Dylan Thomas describes a hunchbacked tramp as ‘a solitary mister’ to make us feel sorry for him. We shouldn’t judge people by their appearance.
9	What are <b>language techniques</b> ?	The tools a writer chooses from their writer’s toolbox to create particular effects.	Through their use of verbs, or a simile, a contrast or an adverbial phrase.
10	What does it mean when it asks for <b>my view</b> ?	It means you have been asked for your opinion on the poem.	How effective the poem is or how far you agree with the poet’s ideas.

## Point of View Writing – Exam

Transactional writing is a style of writing which celebrates a writer’s voice. It is about opinions, viewpoints and differing perspectives on the things which we find most important in life.

	Question	Answer	Example
1	What is a <b>point of view</b> ?	It is the take that we choose to have on an issue or idea.	<b><i>‘I’ll bet that most of you here have been forced to wear uniform at some point in your life’.</i></b>
2	What is <b>rhetoric</b> ?	The art of persuasive speaking.	<b><i>“Friends, Romans, countrymen, Lend me your ears”</i></b> from Julius Caesar by Shakespeare.
3	What are the <b>Three Rhetorical Appeals</b> ?	Aristotle argues there are 3 main levels to persuading others.	Logos, pathos, ethos.
4	What is <b>logos</b> ?	Logos is an appeal to logic, and is a way of persuading an audience by reason.	<b><i>History has shown time and again that absolute power corrupts absolutely.</i></b>
5	What is <b>pathos</b> ?	Pathos is an appeal to emotion, and is a way of convincing an audience of an argument by creating an emotional response.	<b><i>You’ll make the right decision because you have something that not many people do: you have heart.</i></b>
6	What is <b>ethos</b> ?	Ethos is an appeal to ethics, and it is a means of convincing someone of the character or credibility of the persuader.	<b><i>After my two years in high school, I am qualified to tell you that hard work is the only answer.</i></b>
7	What do we mean by the <b>purpose</b> of point-of-view writing?	The reason why we are arguing.	To convince someone, to threaten, to excite them, to advise, argue a case, to encourage etc...
8	How does the <b>audience</b> affect our language choices?	We need to talk directly to our readers or listeners. Our tone and register will be selected to match their needs.	<b><i>We know you can do</i></b> it = a tone use to encourage people. <b><i>You must do it now!</i></b> = a threatening tone.
9	What is the form of a piece of writing?	The rules that different types of writing follow e.g. headings, specific openings and endings, argument structure, tone and voice.	Editorial, blog, review, speeches, essays, articles, leaflets and letters.
10	What is a <b>lively voice</b> ?	Above all, when persuading, let your personality shine through.	<b><i>Naturally, we all adore reading. What’s not to like?</i></b>

## Descriptive Writing – Exam

Description can convey a scene, person, object or moment in life. It celebrates the writer’s ability to enchant the reader by creating a strong picture in the mind’s eye.

	Question	Answer	Example
1	How is <b>description</b> different from narrative?	Description doesn’t tell a story; it describes a scene or a person in detail.	<i><b>Spinning faster and faster, the waltzer’s occupants scream hysterically.</b></i>
2	How do writers <b>engage</b> their readers in description?	They plan first. They ask how they can enchant, transfix and enthrall their specific audience. They organise their ideas to form a clear direction to their writing.	<i><b>“[her dress] rippling and fluttering as if [she] had just been blown back in after a short flight around the house.”</b></i> This enchanting description is of Daisy from ‘The Great Gatsby’, she is an angel.
3	What is the benefit of using <b>objective</b> description?	Objective description is primarily factual, so it can record exactly what is seen without confusing it with the writer’s feelings.	<i><b>The sun’s rays cast its rigid fingers across the open moorland.</b></i> Usually in the 3 <sup>rd</sup> person or the impersonal voice
4	What is the benefit of using <b>subjective</b> description?	Subjective description uses emotionally charged language to convey the writer’s feelings. Usually in the first person but sometimes in the impersonal voice.	<i><b>The Eiffel Tower loomed above me, like a sword of doom; I knew it was going to be a long climb.</b></i> (1 <sup>st</sup> person). <i><b>The Eiffel Tower loomed above like a sword of doom; it was going to be a long climb.</b></i> (Impersonal voice).
5	How can writers build <b>atmosphere</b> in description?	Atmosphere is the mood or the tone of a place. It can be created by selectively choosing modifiers to create the big picture.	<i><b>“Dark spruce forest frowned on either side of the frozen lake.”</b></i> ‘White Fang’ by Jack London The underlined words make the atmosphere seem unsettling.
6	How do writers use <b>observation</b> to record details?	Writers use the 5 senses to see the whole picture in their mind before writing.	<i><b>‘The wave paused, and then drew out again, sighing like a sleeper whose breath comes and goes unconsciously.’</b></i> Woolf uses sound to describe the wave.
7	Why can we <b>choose vocabulary deliberately</b> ?	Less is more. Practise drafting and redrafting your description to cut down in unnecessary modifiers.	<i><b>“He edged through the darkness, arms outstretched, fingers on the softly-peeling bark of a birch”.</b></i> Notice how only the tree has the adjectives here.
8	Why do writers describe using <b>sounds</b> ?	They want their readers to live their description by hearing it in their minds and visualising it.	<i><b>“Enough to allow the lovely sweet taste to spread out slowly”.</b></i> Can you taste Charlie Bucket’s chocolate bar with him?
9	Why do writers love to use <b>similes</b> ?	Similes give the writer a chance to pull apart a scene and compare the experience to something we are all familiar with.	Roald Dahl describes the old people in Charlie and the Chocolate Factory as <i><b>‘shrivelled as prunes’</b></i> , their skin is as wrinkly as prunes’ skin.
10	Why do writers love to use <b>metaphor</b> ?	Metaphor gives the writer a chance to take a complex idea and make it simpler by directly comparing it to something we all know.	<i><b>“the water was a thin stick...”</b></i> helps us to see how narrow the sea is in Lord of the Flies by William Golding.

## Grammar

Grammar is the nuts and bolts which connect parts of a sentence together. It is the study of the way words are used to make sentences.

	Question	Answer	Example
1	Why are <b>nouns</b> an important part of a sentence?	They name what the sentence is about: a <b>person</b> , <b>object</b> or a <b>place</b> . (POP)	<b>Mr Spalding</b> (person) <b>Laptop</b> (object) <b>Woods</b> (place)
2	What job does an <b>adjective</b> do?	It modifies the meaning of a noun, or a verb.	Their work was <b>good</b> . (After the verb 'was').
3	What does a <b>verb</b> do?	It is the muscle in a sentence. It gives us physical actions, mental actions or a state of being.	She <b>walked</b> . (physical action) I <b>think</b> it will be OK. (mental action) I <b>am</b> here. (state of being)
4	When can we use <b>modal verbs</b> ?	When we want to suggest possibilities or obligations.	<b>Maybe</b> the writer wants to show jealousy. You <b>must</b> think about using commas.
5	What can an <b>adverb</b> add to a sentence?	It can explain how to do something and it can build in details e.g to a verb, adverb, adjective or a clause.	The match was <b>really</b> close. We don't get to play sport <b>very</b> often. <b>Fortunately</b> , it didn't rain.
6	What is the job of a <b>conjunction</b> ?	It marks the junction where one clause ends and another begins.	She watched her friend go <b>and</b> she waved goodbye. <b>And, but, for, nor, or, yet, so.</b>
7	Can conjunctions be <b>subordinating</b> ?	Yes, they can introduce a subordinate clause.	He was happy <b>until</b> he had to do the washing up. <b>Because</b> she had a passion for horses, she liked to ride.
8	How is a <b>connective</b> different from a conjunction?	Conjunctions join ideas within the same sentence. <b>Whereas</b> a connective connects ideas between sentences.	She watched her friend go. <b>However</b> , he was only gone for a day before his return. <b>Although, then, therefore.</b>
9	Why do writers use <b>prepositions</b> ?	They want to show the position between words like nouns, pronouns or phrases.	The cat sat <b>on</b> the mat. It sat <b>near</b> the mat. The hairy cat sat <b>on</b> the mat.
10	When do writers use a <b>pronoun</b> ?	In the place of a noun when they want to withhold details or when they have already used the noun.	<b>I, you, he, she, we, they, one, it.</b> Cathy was in love with Heathcliff, <b>she</b> enjoyed his company on the moors.
11	How can writers use the <b>first person pronoun</b> ?	They can use them to refer to the speaker personally or about themselves.	<b>I, me, we, us.</b> <b>I</b> can remember you child. <b>We</b> want, <b>we</b> shouted.
12	Why might writers use <b>the second person pronoun</b> ?	They want to directly address their readers to engage them in the topic. It's a great way to persuade.	<b>You, your, yours.</b> Have <b>you</b> thought about how energy drinks are damaging <b>your</b> health?
13	Why do writers use <b>third person pronouns</b> ?	These pronouns are helpful as they refer to people or things other than the speaker.	<b>He, she, it, him, her, they, them.</b> <b>She</b> kept an antique shop.
14	When can <b>impersonal pronouns</b> be used?	These are good if you want to talk about people in general.	One, they, you. <b>You</b> can see <b>they</b> are right.
15	What can <b>possessive pronouns</b> do?	They can show that something belongs to someone.	<b>My, mine, yours, your, his, him, her, hers our, ours, their, theirs, one's, its.</b> It was <b>their</b> last chance to win the cup.
16	Why do writers use <b>the definite article</b> ?	The definite article is <b>the</b> . Its effect is much more specific.	This is <b>the</b> car I want for my birthday. I only want this one specific car (please!)
17	When can you use the <b>indefinite article</b> ?	If you want to refer to any place, object or person.	It was <b>a</b> car that I wanted for my birthday. I would like <b>an</b> apple please.
18	Why do we need <b>determiners</b> ?	They help us to determine the amount of something we want.	There were <b>three</b> cars. He ate <b>some</b> of the cake. <b>All</b> of the students learned it.

# Spelling

If you are like most people, chances are at some point you will have been confused by the spelling of a word. Spelling can be challenging because there are so many rules. Learn some of this core knowledge and it will help you to reduce some of the challenges.

	Question	Answer	Example
1	What is a <b>vowel</b> ?	A sound which is made without being blocked by the tongue, teeth or lips.	<b>a,e,i,o,u</b> and occasionally <b>y</b> as in <b><u>sky</u></b> or <b><u>fly</u></b> .
2	What is a <b>consonant</b> ?	A letter in the alphabet which is not a vowel.	<b>b,c,d,f,g,h,j,k,l,m,n,p,q,r,s,t,v,w,x,z.</b>
3	Why do we need to know the <b>root word</b> first?	So we know the original meaning of a word before we change it with suffixes and prefixes.	e.g. <b><u>mobile</u></b> without the prefix auto- as in automobile or the suffix -ity as in mobility.
4	Why is a <b>prefix</b> useful to know?	It can be attached to the front of a word to modify its meaning. We can see how words can be built up to form new words.	Dis- before the verb 'infect' becomes the verb <b><u>disinfect</u></b> . 'Dis-' means to reverse something.
5	Why is a <b>suffix</b> useful to know?	It can be attached to the end of a word to modify its meaning. It helps us to understand spellings and word meanings.	'ment' after the verb 'install' becomes the noun <b><u>instalment</u></b> , the result of installing something.
6	Why is it helpful to know what a <b>word family</b> ?	To understand how words can be grouped and share common spellings and meanings.	<b><u>Work</u></b> is the head of the family of <b><u>working, worked, worker, workmanship.</u></b>
7	How do writers show <b>tense</b> ?	They decide whether to write in the past, present or future tense. They change verb endings.	She <b><u>studies</u></b> . Yesterday she <b><u>studied</u></b> . He may <b><u>study</u></b> tomorrow.
8	When is <b>standard English</b> used?	When writers want to appeal to a wide audience, be clear or authoritative.	<b><u>Some people claim exercise can damage health</u></b> in the place of <i>exercise can play havoc with your health.</i>
9	When is <b>non-standard English</b> used?	When writers want to reflect the way people speak in a region of England. To be authentic.	<b><u>I done it</u></b> in place of 'I did it'. <b><u>We had a mardle at the gate</u></b> in place of we had a chat by the gate.
10	Why should we learn homophones?	To help us to remember the different spellings of words which sound alike.	<b><u>Our</u></b> and <b><u>are</u></b> <b><u>Their, they're and there</u></b>
11	How is a <b>homograph</b> different from a homophone?	These words are spelt the same but have different meanings.	<b><u>Lead</u></b> as in 'to lead the way' (Verb). <b><u>Lead</u></b> as in the metal. (Noun). <b><u>Lead</u></b> as in the dog leash. (Noun).
12	How can <b>synonyms</b> be useful?	They can help us to choose different words which have the same meaning. We can sound more sophisticated and precise.	<i>The girl was <b><u>happy</u></b> becomes the girl was <b><u>elated</u></b>.</i>
13	Why do we need <b>antonyms</b> ?	They are good for comparisons because they have almost opposite meanings.	<i>I <b><u>love</u></b> playing out in the rain becomes I <b><u>hate</u></b> playing out in the rain.</i>
14	When do writers use the <b>contracted form</b> ?	When they want to shorten words to show a letter has been left out in informal or personal writing.	I am becomes <b><u>I'm</u></b> Do not becomes <b><u>don't</u></b>
15	Why do writers use <b>word blends</b> ?	Blends mix two words together to form a new word. They are quick and relevant to new experiences.	In the 19 <sup>th</sup> century the nouns smoke and fog were mixed to form <b><u>'smog'</u></b> to describe the air caused by coal fires.

## Punctuation

Punctuation shows us where ideas start and finish. It helps us to make our writing clear for our readers. Punctuation within sentences can help writers to emphasise certain ideas, change the tone or to play with the reader's response.

	Question	Answer	Example
1	What is a <b>full stop</b> used for?	It marks the end of one idea. It always ends a statement.	A recent survey confirmed that young people are wiser than older people.
2	What is a <b>question mark</b> used for?	It can be used to directly involve the reader or to cause them to question an idea.	<i><b>Why would you</b></i> want to sit through a whole James Bond movie?
3	Why do writers choose to use an <b>exclamation mark</b> ?	They indicate strong feelings or high volume (shouting).	That's wonderful news! Come back here right away!
4	What job do <b>commas</b> do in a sentence?	Commas separate items in a list, and relative clauses in a sentence.	You can go to the <b>cinema, swim, play tennis</b> or eat out in Norwich.
5	What are <b>parenthetical commas</b> used for?	They keep a word, phrase or clause separate from the rest of a sentence by using commas.	Mrs Davis, <i><b>the music teacher</b></i> , had won an award for being the best teacher.
6	What are <b>speech marks</b> used for?	Speech marks wrap around speech – at the beginning and end.	"I saw your mum in Tesco's last week" said Jack, "she looked really well."
7	What is the difference between speech marks and <b>quotation marks</b> ?	Quotation marks AKA single inverted commas wrap around quoted words.	I always remembered what she told me: 'Your mind is a powerful thing when you fill it with positive thoughts'.
8	What is a <b>semi-colon</b> used for?	It links two independent clauses which are closely related.	Dad is going bald; his hair is getting thinner and thinner. 'bald' and 'hair' are linked.
9	What does a <b>colon</b> do?	It introduces a clause that gives detail or introduces a list, a quotation or speech in a script.	He got what he worked for: <i><b>he really earned that promotion.</b></i> This phrase adds detail.
10	What is <b>ellipsis</b> used for?	Punctuation to show missing text. It allows the reader to fill in the gaps.	'And I remember ... I was afraid'.
11	Why is a <b>hyphen</b> used?	It links two or more words together or shows a word is incomplete at the end of a line.	User – friendly part-time back-to-back
12	What is the difference between the hyphen and the <b>dash</b> ?	Whereas the hyphen links compound words, the dash is used to separate two parts of a sentence to create emphasis.	<i>Paul sang his song terribly – <b>and he thought he was brilliant!</b></i>
13	What are <b>parenthetical brackets</b> used for?	They wrap around the non-essential information in a sentence. If you took the parenthesis away, the sentence would still make sense.	<i>He finally answered (<b>after taking five minutes to think</b>) that he did not understand the question.</i>
14	What is an <b>apostrophe</b> used for?	An apostrophe is used to show letters have been left out or that something belongs to someone.	Should not = <i><b>shouldn't.</b></i> 'o' has been left out. The cars belonging to the one boy = the <i><b>boy's</b></i> cars.
15	What is the punctuation of <b>direct speech</b> ?	Speech marks encompass the speech. Start a new speech on a new line. Use punctuation to separate speech from the rest of the sentence.	<i>"No ice thank you," Billy concluded.</i>

## Sentences

Sentences are like a piece of string: they can be twisted, cut up and stuck back together again in a different order. All of these approaches are taken to create particular effects for the reader.

	Question	Answer	Example
1	Can I remember what a <b>clause</b> is?	A clause is a group of related words containing a subject and a verb. It can stand on its own.	<b><i><u>The girls enjoy riding their horses.</u></i></b>
2	What is the difference between a clause and a <b>phrase</b> ?	A phrase is a group of words that work together as a unit but can't stand on its own.	<b><i><u>Racing across the fields,</u></i></b> the girls enjoy riding their horses.
3	What is the effect of a <b>simple sentence</b> ?	It expresses a single complete thought. It can create a statement, shock or a summary.	<b><i><u>I like to read Sophie McKensie novels.</u></i></b>
4	When do writers choose to use a compound <b>sentence</b> ?	When they want to develop an idea by joining two independent clauses together.	I like to read in the library <b><i><u>and</u></i></b> my friend likes to read at home.
5	Why do writers enjoy using <b>complex sentences</b> ?	They want one idea to seem more important than another part. They want to add details such as facts or added opinions.	Since I was going to the prom, for the first time, <b><i><u>I thought I should buy a new dress.</u></i></b>
6	What is a <b>main clause</b> ?	This is the main part of the sentence which can stand on its own.	Since I was going to the prom, <b><i><u>I thought I should buy a new dress.</u></i></b>
7	What is a <b>dependent clause</b> ?	The part of the sentence which depends on the main clause to make sense.	<b><i><u>Since I was going to the prom,</u></i></b> I thought I should buy a new dress.
8	What does an <b>adverbial phrase</b> do?	Like adverbs, this phrase modifies the verb, adjective or adverb.	He was <b><i><u>unexpectedly</u></i></b> kind. <b><i><u>Unexpectedly</u></i></b> modifies the way he was <i>kind</i> .
9	Can you place <b>adverbials</b> in different places in a sentence?	Yes. <b>Fronted adverbials</b> can be placed at the front to hold back details before the main clause.	<b><i><u>Even though he was slow,</u></i></b> he managed to complete the relay.
10	When do writers use <b>noun phrases</b> ?	When they want to build details around the person, object or place.	Charles Dickens does this to describe a desk: ' <b><i><u>There were a couple of old rickety desks, cut and notched...</u></i></b> '
11	How can <b>verb phrases</b> be used?	A verb phrase can act differently in different parts of a sentence but it always contains a verb.	<b><i><u>Even though it was Sunday, she was walking quickly to the school.</u></i></b>
12	How can <b>adjectival phrases</b> be used?	It can tell us something about the noun it is modifying.	These <b><i><u>unbelievably expensive</u></i></b> shoes. The 'unbelievably expensive' describes the shoes.
13	What can a <b>preposition phrase</b> add to a sentence?	It can add context to tell us the position of something. It's a good way to extend sentences.	The cat jumped and pounced. (What did the cat jump off? What did the cat pounce on?) <b><i><u>The cat jumped off the stove and pounced on the gerbil.</u></i></b>
14	When is the <b>passive voice</b> used?	When the writer wants to show how the subject is having something done to it. A formal sentence.	<b><i><u>The entire stretch of road was paved by the crew.</u></i></b> The road had no choice to be paved – it was passive.
15	When is the <b>active voice</b> used?	It is more informal than the passive. The subject carries out the action.	<b><i><u>The crew paved the entire stretch of the road.</u></i></b> The crew had a choice, they actively paved the road.