

Year 6 English Glossary

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| Active voice / Passive voice | A sentence following the pattern - subject, verb, object e.g. The man ate the chocolates. A sentence following the pattern - object, verb, subject e.g. the chocolates were eaten by the man. |
| Adjective | A word that describes a noun e.g. a blue balloon. |
| Adverb | A word that describes a verb, usually ending in -ly. For example, she ran quickly . |
| Alliteration | A number of words close together which begin with the same consonant sound e.g. ten tired teddies |
| Apostrophe (') | An apostrophe is a mark used to show that a letter has been left out. Example: he is can be written he's . Apostrophes are also used to show ownership. Examples: the cat's bowl, the cats' bowls . |
| Author | A person who writes books, stories and poem. |
| Blurb | A piece of writing that tells you the content of a book. It is often on the back of a book. |
| Brackets | A punctuation mark used instead of commas when including extra information in a sentence. |
| Capital letter | A larger letter used at the beginning of sentences and for naming specific people, places and things. |
| Caption | A sentence to explain a picture or photograph. |
| Character | A character is an individual in a story, play or poem. |
| Chronological order | The order in which events happen (time order). |
| Clause | A distinct part of a sentence including a verb. A main clause makes sense on its own. A subordinate clause adds detail to the main clause but does not make sense on its own. |
| Colon | A punctuation mark to introduce a list. |
| Comma | A punctuation mark used to break up sentences so that they are easier to understand. They can be used in lists. |
| Compound sentence | A sentence consisting of two main clauses joined by a connective. |
| Complex sentence | A sentence consisting of a main clauses and one or more subordinate clause. |
| Conclusion | The ending of a piece of writing. |
| Connective | A word or group of words which joins sentences or parts of sentences e.g. and, then, but, so. |
| Consonant / vowel | In the English alphabet there are 5 vowels (a,e,I,o,u) and 21 consonants (b,c,d,f,g,h,j,k,l,m,n,p,q,r,s,t,v,w,x,y,z). |
| Dialogue | Speech between two or more people. |
| Draft | A rough piece of writing which is later edited and then written neatly. |
| Edit | To change the grammar, spelling, punctuation or words in writing. |
| Ellipsis | ... Used to create suspense or to show omission. |
| Embedded clauses | Adding extra information into the middle of a sentence using commas e.g. The man, who is tall , ran down the road. |
| Event | Something which happens. |
| Exclamation mark | A punctuation mark used at the end of a sentence to show strong feelings e.g. Help! Wow! |
| Fiction / Non-fiction | Fiction is an invented story, poem or play. Non-fiction is writing about real events, feelings or things. |
| Full stop | A mark used to end a sentence, when the sentence is not a question or exclamation e.g. Miss Marina likes cake. |
| Headline | The title of a newspaper report. |
| Homophones | Words that sound the same but have different spellings and meanings e.g. blue, blew. |
| Illustration | A picture, plan or diagram which is part of a text. |
| Imperative verbs | A verb that commands or tells the reader or listener to do something e.g. Write neatly! |
| Introduction | The beginning of a piece of writing. |
| Label | The words which tell us about part of a diagram, picture or map. |



Year 6 English Glossary continued....

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| Metaphor | A direct comparison without the use of like or as e.g. the clouds were cotton wool, drifting in the sky. |
| Narrator | The person whose voice is heard in a novel or story. The narrator can be one of the characters speaking (first person) or someone speaking about the characters (third person). |
| Noun | A word that names a person, place or thing. |
| Plural | More than one. |
| Personification | Giving human qualities to non-human objects e.g. the leaves danced in the wind. |
| Phrase | Two or more words that act as a unit and do not have a verb e.g. over the bridge. |
| Plural | More than one. |
| Prefixes | Letters added to the beginning of the word which change the meaning e.g. un, pre, dis |
| Preposition | A word which tells us the position of something e.g. on, under, in, through. |
| Pronouns | Words which stand in the place of a noun e.g. I, we, he, she. |
| Proper noun | Words that name a particular person, thing or place and begins with a capital letter e.g. Susie, London, Christmas. |
| Question mark | Used at the end of a question e.g. Where is my bag? |
| Rhyme | Words which have the same ending sounds e.g. bed, head, said. |
| Semi-colon | Punctuation used to separate larger phrases in a list or can be used to replace a connective in a compound sentence. |
| Setting | Where the story takes place. |
| Simile | Where something is compared to something else using like or as e.g. She is as tall as a giraffe. |
| Slogan | A sentence or group of words which aim to grab our attention e.g. I'm lovin' it. |
| Speech marks | Punctuation marks that go around the words that are actually spoken in a piece of writing " " |
| Sub-title | Smaller headings. |
| Suffixes | Letters added to the end of a word to change the meaning e.g. -ed, -ing, -er. |
| Syllable | A small unit of sound in a word e.g. Choc/o/late. |
| Tense | Tells us when something is happening (past, present, future). Usually shown by the verb. |
| Time connectives | Connectives which show order e.g. next, then, suddenly, after that, just then. |
| Title | The heading that tells us what the writing is about. |
| Verb | An action word e.g. run, walk, shout. |
| Verse | A "paragraph" in a poem. |

