

Key Vocabulary	
Synonyms	Synonyms are groups of words that have a similar meaning, such as small, little, tiny. These words are often interchangeable within sentences. While synonyms can be interchangeable, the strength of the synonym can affect the mood, i.e. 'The stone tumbled into the sea from the top of the cliff.' compared to 'The stone plunged into the sea from the top of the cliff.' Synonyms can be used in place of overused words to avoid repetition within a text.
Antonyms	Antonyms are pairs of words that have the opposite meaning, such as small/big and quiet/loud. These words are not interchangeable within sentences as they completely change the meaning.
Colons and semi-colons	Colons (:) are used in a sentence to indicate that something is about to follow, such as an example, a quotation or a list, e.g. There are four different flavours: chocolate, vanilla, strawberry and mint. • Semi-colons (;) are used to join two independent clauses, to separate main clauses or to separate items in a list if the list is made up of longer phrases or adds an explanation which requires a comma. When using semi-colons within a list, you need to include a semi-colon to join the last two items, but still use the word 'and' or 'or'. For example, You will need: a carton of milk; 3 eggs, medium or large; 4 tbsp sugar; and 100g plain flour
Passive and active	The passive form is used to change the presentation of a sentence. The person, place or thing that would normally be the object of the active sentence becomes the subject with the use of the past participle of the verb and an auxiliary verb. For example: the active sentence 'I drank your juice earlier.' changes to the passive sentence 'The juice was drunk earlier (by me).' The object 'juice' becomes the subject; 'drank' becomes the past participle 'drunk'; the auxiliary verb 'was' is added before the past participle. In this example, the subject 'I' is omitted because it is not needed as an object in the second sentence..
Formal and informal	Whether a text is formal or informal depends on the genre, purpose and audience that the piece is intended for. These are the factors which then influence the vocabulary and structure used. Formal genres such as formal letters, information texts and newspaper articles have a common layout structure to follow. For example: Newspaper articles are set out in columns with headlines; formal letters include the address at the top; information texts include sub-headings. Each formal style has language appropriate to the subject and may include factual language, sophisticated vocabulary, jargon and a formal tone. Informal writing may use a more relaxed style which may include colloquial language and slang.

Word Classes

Nouns	A noun is used to name a person, place or thing. There are different types of nouns including common, proper, collective, concrete and abstract. Repeated nouns can also be replaced by pronouns.
Verbs	A verb is used to express an action or a state of being. There are also different types of verbs including actions, linking and auxiliary (helping).
Adjectives	An adjective is a word used to describe a noun (or pronoun). Adjectives can be used on their own or in a list to explain characteristics of a particular noun. They can also refer to comparatives and superlatives which compare two or more things.
Adverbs	An adverb is a word that describes a verb, such as how, when, where or how often it is happening.
Conjunctions	A conjunction is used to join two or more clauses (or words) together. A co-ordinating conjunction is used to join two main clauses of equal value. A subordinating conjunction is used to add a subordinate (dependent) clause to the main clause.
Preposition	A preposition is a word that describes where something is or where it needs to move to, for example 'Pour the ingredients into the bowl.'
Determiner	A determiner is a word which comes before a noun (or an adjective) to explain whether a noun is general or specific. There are different types of determiners such as articles, demonstrative, quantifiers and possessive.