



Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling

Year 4

Spring Block 3

Year 4 – Yearly Overview

| | Week 1 | Week 2 | Week 3 | Week 4 | Week 5 | Week 6 | Week 7 | Week 8 | Week 9 | Week 10 | Week 11 | Week 12 |
|--------|---------------------|--------|---------------|-----------|--------|-------------|-----------------|-----------------------|---------------|---------|-------------|-------------|
| Autumn | 1. Ready to Write | | | | | 2. Pronouns | | 3. Fronted Adverbials | | | | Assessments |
| Spring | 1. Apostrophes | | | 2. Speech | | | 3. Noun Phrases | | 4. Suffixes 1 | | Assessments | |
| Summer | 1. Standard English | | 2. Paragraphs | | | | 3. Suffixes 2 | | | | Assessments | |

Teaching Information

This scheme of work has been designed to be used in conjunction with your English writing curriculum. We recommend spreading the small steps out over the number of weeks suggested on the yearly overview. It is important to develop and build pupils' grammar, punctuation and spelling knowledge alongside reading and writing as this is the foundation of the English language. Understanding these elements of the English language enables pupils to not only enjoy English as a subject in its own right, but also to access the rest of the subjects within the whole curriculum.

Each block will develop English language fluency as well as application and reasoning to allow children to use these skills across all subject areas. We have provided some notes and guidance for each small step which breaks down the expectations for each pupil, as well as focused questions to help support your teaching.

Every step within each block has corresponding resources available on our website. These resources include a Teaching PowerPoint, Varied Fluency questions, and Application and Reasoning questions. The resources for each first step in every block are available to download for free.

Spring Block 3 – Noun Phrases

National Curriculum Objectives:

(4G3.2) Noun phrases expanded by the addition of modifying adjectives, nouns and preposition phrases (e.g. the teacher expanded to: the strict maths teacher with curly hair)

Small Steps

1. Identifying Noun Phrases
2. Modifying Adjectives and Nouns
3. Determiners Before Modifiers
4. Prepositional Phrases
5. Using Expanded Noun Phrases

Step 1 – Identifying Noun Phrases

Notes and Guidance

- Children should know how to use adjectives in various positions within a sentence to create an expanded noun phrase.
- Most children should be familiar with noun phrases from their prior learning and exposure to class texts, and most will be able to use them confidently in their own writing.
- A noun phrase is a phrase where determiners are used before the noun. An expanded noun phrase is a phrase where adjectives, adverbs or prepositions are used to modify a noun. For example: *The large, circular object under the trees. The cunning fox with the bushy tail.*
- In this step, children will recap how to identify a noun phrase containing adjectives within a sentence.

Focused Questions

- Which part of the sentence is the noun phrase? How do you know?

You can find the [free resources for this step](#) on our website. Each pack includes a Teaching PowerPoint, Varied Fluency questions, and Application and Reasoning questions.

Step 2 – Modifying Adjectives and Nouns

Notes and Guidance

- Having recapped identifying noun phrases in the previous step, children can now move on to modifying adjectives and nouns.
- A *modifier* is a word or phrase which is added to a noun or adjective in order to make it more specific. For example: *Secondary school teacher*. The addition of 'Secondary school' to 'teacher' tells the reader that the person is a specific kind of teacher therefore modifying the word 'teacher'. 'Secondary' modifies the word 'school'.
- In this step, children will begin to identify and use adjectives and nouns as modifiers to create specific information.

Focused Questions

- Which word is the modifier?
- How has the adjective in this sentence modified the noun?

You can find the [resources for this step](#) on our website. Each pack includes a Teaching PowerPoint, Varied Fluency questions, and Application and Reasoning questions.

Step 3 – Determiners Before Modifiers

Notes and Guidance

- This step focuses on the use of determiners before a modifier.
- A determiner is positioned before a modifier in order to specify a noun as known or unknown. For example: *My house* (known); *a house* (unknown).
- Determiners can be articles (the, a or an), demonstratives (eg. this, those), possessives (eg. his, my) or quantifiers (eg. all, every)

Focused Questions

- Is this determiner correct?
- Add a determiner so that this noun phrase makes sense.

You can find the [resources for this step](#) on our website. Each pack includes a Teaching PowerPoint, Varied Fluency questions, and Application and Reasoning questions.

Step 4 – Prepositional Phrases

Notes and Guidance

- In the previous steps, children have learned about noun phrases using adjectives.
- In this step, they will be introduced to prepositional phrases.
- A prepositional phrase is a phrase consisting of a preposition and an object, usually a verb or noun, which modifies the object. For example: The grey car in the corner.
- This step focuses on recognising and using prepositional phrases as another way to create an expanded noun phrase.

Focused Questions

- Underline the preposition phrase in this sentence.

You can find the [resources for this step](#) on our website. Each pack includes a Teaching PowerPoint, Varied Fluency questions, and Application and Reasoning questions.

Step 5 – Using Expanded Noun Phrases

Notes and Guidance

- In the previous steps, children have been introduced to different ways of creating an expanded noun phrase.
- In this step, children will use expanded noun phrases in a variety of ways, using their prior learning.

Focused Questions

- Add an expanded noun phrase to this sentence which contains a preposition phrase.
- Change this expanded noun phrase to include a modifying adjective.

You can find the [resources for this step](#) on our website. Each pack includes a Teaching PowerPoint, Varied Fluency questions, and Application and Reasoning questions.