Sophie's Y6 Grammar Knowledge Organiser

Before you set off, take a moment to check the map. Here's your grammar knowledge organiser - it's a tongue-twister of terminology, so best to keep on the boil all year round.

(These are perfect for printing out and sticking in front of everyone's books - you could even hand them to parents so they can get to know the lay of the land!)

Word classes

Category		Definition	Example
noun		a person, place, thing or feeling	dog, school, happiness
verb		shows an action, a doing or being word	run, was, think
	regular	adds -ed to show past tense	walk → walk**ed**
	irregular	doesn't follow usual past tense rules	go → went
	modal	goes before another verb to show possibility or certainty	might, should, will
	progressive	see **Tense** (on the next page)	She **is walking** to school.
	perfect	see **Tense** (on the next page)	She **has walked** to school.
	active	In active voice, there is an active verb and the subject does the action.	The dog **chased** the cat.
	passive	In passive voice, there is a passive verb and the subject has the action done to it.	The cat **was chased** by the dog.
adjective		describes a noun	blue, tall, happy
conjunction	co-ordinating	joins main clauses	and, but, or
	subordinating	joins a main and subordinate clause	because, when
pronoun		replaces a noun	he, she, they, it
	relative	starts a relative clause	who, which, that
	possessive	shows something belongs to someone	his, hers, theirs
adverb		describes how, when or where something happens	quickly, yesterday, here
preposition		shows where or when something is	under, after, next to
determiner		used before a noun to show which one or how many	the, some, three

Types of sentence

Category	Definition	Example
statement	tells you something	This is blue.
question	asks something	Is that blue?
command	tells someone to do something	Paint it blue.
exclamation	shows strong feeling; starts with 'what' or 'how'	How blue that is!

Parts of a sentence

Category		Definition	Example
subject		the person or thing doing the action in a sentence	**She** ate a banana.
object		the person or thing the action is done to	She ate **a banana.**
clause		a group of words with a verb (it could be a full sentence or part of one)	he kicked a ball
	main (or independent)	a part of a sentence that makes sense on its own	he kicked a ball
	subordinate	a part of a sentence that doesn't make sense on its own (begins with a subordinating conjunction)	because they were hungry
	relative	a type of subordinate clause that gives more detail about a noun (starts with a relative pronoun	which are blue
adverbial (fronted)		a word or phrase that tells us when, where or how something happens (sometimes at the start of a sentence)	**After lunch,** we played.
expanded noun phrase		a noun with extra detail added	the small, fluffy kitten

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Tense

Category	Definition	Example
present	shows that something is happening now or happens regularly	She **walks** to school.
simple past	shows something that happened once	She **walked** to school.
progressive	shows something still happening (uses the helper verb 'is' or 'are' and verb ends in -ing)	She **is walking** to school.
perfect	shows something already completed (uses the helper verb 'had' or 'have')	She **had walked** to school.

Language

Category	Definition	Example
formal	polite or proper language, often used in writing or serious situations	Please submit this by Monday.
informal	everyday, casual language used with friends	Get it to me by Mon.
Standard English	the correct way of writing English	

Words

Category	Definition	Example
synonym	a word that means the same or nearly the same	big and large
antonym	a word that means the opposite	hot and cold
prefix	letters added to the start of a word to change its meaning	**un**happy
suffix	letters added to the end of a word to change its meaning	care**ful**
word family	a group of words that come from the same root word	help, helpful, helpless

Punctuation

Category		Definition	Example
capital letter		used at the start of sentences or for proper nouns	I live in London.
full stop		used to end a sentence	This is my cat.
question mark		used to end a question	How are you?
exclamation mark		used at the end of an exclamation, or to show strong feeling	What a beautiful day!
apostrophe	for a contraction	shows letters are missing	can't = cannot
	to show possession	shows something belongs to someone or something	Amir's book
comma(s)	in a list	used between items in a list	apples, bananas, oranges
	in dialogue	used before someone speaks or at the end of dialogue	She said, "Hello!" "I don't know," he said.
	in a sentence	used between phrases or clauses (especially after a fronted adverbial)	After lunch, we played.
	double	used in pairs as parentheses to show extra information in a sentence	The boy, who was tall, read a book.
brackets		used in pairs as parentheses to show extra information in a sentence	The boy (who was tall) read a book.
dash(es)	single	used to join main clauses	She threw the ball - it went really high.
	double	used in pairs as parentheses to show extra information in a sentence	The boy - who was tall - read a book.
colon		used to join two main clauses when the second main clause explains the first main clause, or before a list	It was dark: the lights had been turned off.
semi-colon		used to join main clauses when two main clauses are closely related, or list expanded noun phrases	I was hungry; there was nothing to eat.
hyphen		used to join words, or parts of words	well-known
inverted commas		used around dialogue (speech)	"Hello!" she said.