

UKS2: Years 5 and 6

English Knowledge Organiser



Spelling and Vocabulary

root word	A basic word with no prefix or suffix added to it.
word family	A group of words that share a common root word, with different prefixes and suffixes added.
prefix	A string of letters that are added to the beginning of a root word, changing its meaning.
suffix	A string of letters that are added to the end of a root word, changing its meaning.
synonym	A word with the same or similar meaning to another word (e.g. happy/cheerful).
antonym	A word with the opposite meaning of another word (e.g. happy/sad).
homophone	Words which sound the same, but have different meanings and are spelt differently.



Reading

Retrieval	Finding information in a text.
Vocabulary	Understanding and explaining the meaning of words in the text.
Inference	Using clues provided within a text to make conclusions about what is happening.
Predict	Using evidence from a text to say what may happen next.
Summarise	Give a short overview of the main points in a text.
Author's intent	How the writer's choice of language, layout and structure impact the reader.
Compare/contrast	Using evidence to explain what is the same and different within and across texts.
Theme	The underlying message that the author is trying to convey in a text.
Intonation	Change of tone in a reader's voice, e.g. for emphasis or emotion.

Grammar and Punctuation

main clause	A group of words containing a subject and a verb, which makes sense on its own.
subordinate clause	Contains a subject and a verb, and is joined to the main clause by a conjunction; does not make sense on its own, e.g. She answered the phone when it rang . This new sentences is a complex sentence.
embedded clause	A subordinate clause in the middle of another clause, with two commas, e.g. My bike, which is old, is broken.
parenthesis	Extra information added to a sentence, punctuated with commas, brackets or dashes .
relative clause	A clause beginning with a relative pronoun (who, which, where, when, whose, that).
colon :	To introduce a list, e.g. I like many fruits: apples, bananas and pears. To mark the boundary between two independent clauses (the second clause explains the first), e.g. I knew what I had to do: I ran.
semi-colon ;	Used to mark the boundary between related clauses, e.g. I love football; it's my favourite sport.
hyphen	Used to avoid ambiguity, e.g. man-eating shark/man eating shark, recover/re-cover.
direct speech	The exact words spoken are written in inverted commas , e.g. "I love writing," explained the pupil.
reported speech	Summarising what has been said, e.g. The pupil said that he loves writing.
ellipsis	Indicates the intended omission of a word, sentence or section of a text, e.g. The door opened ...
modals	Verbs and adverbs used for certainty/possibility, e.g. perhaps, definitely, must, should, could

Writing Key Concepts / Terminology

cohesion	Linking clauses and paragraphs so a text 'flows' - devices include adverbials, conjunctions and pronouns.					
ambiguity	Where the meaning of a sentence is unclear/confusing; accurate use of punctuation avoids ambiguity.					
formality	Vocabulary & structures of formal/informal writing/speech, e.g. He's your pal, isn't he?/Is he your friend?					
subject/object	Subject - In a sentence, the person or thing performing an action (verb). Object - In a sentence, the person or thing receiving the action (verb). e.g. <u>The man</u> (s) drove <u>a car</u> (o).					
active/passive	Active - John kicked the ball; Passive - The ball was kicked by John.					
subjunctive	Used in formal writing and speech, e.g. If I were to give...; The rules are to be followed.					
figurative language	Stylistic features to engage the reader and create description, e.g. similes, metaphors, personification.					
verb tense	Past		Present		Future	
	Simple past	I walked.	Simple present	I walk.	Simple future	I will play.
	Past progressive	I was walking.	Present progressive	I am walking.	Future progressive	I will be playing.
	Past Perfect	I had walked.	Present perfect	I have walked.	Future perfect	I will have played.