

English Vocabulary Glossary

Reading	
phoneme	the sound that a single or plural letters make
digraph (special friends)	sounds which are represented by two letters e.g ll, sh, nk, ur
trigraph (special friends)	sounds which are represented by two letters e.g ure, ear, air, are
blending out loud (Fred talk)	combining (saying) sounds (out loud) together to make a word e.g c-a-t
blending in head (Fred in your head)	combining (saying) sounds (in head) together to make a word e.g. p-a-th
comprehension	understanding (what we read, listen to or see)
fluency	reading with pace and accuracy
fiction	text that describes imaginary people or events
non-fiction	text that is real information and factual
common exception words	words that we use regularly that break the common phonic rules in some way (children should be able to read their year groups common exception words by the end of the year)
genre	a type of text e.g. fiction, non-fiction
VIPERS (see below)	a mnemonic (word) to help us remember 6 reading skills (see below)
vocabulary	words (and understanding the meaning of the words)
inference	answering questions about a text, when the answer isn't always written within the text
prediction	making a sensible guess, using clues and what we know
explain	give explanations and share opinions about a text
retrieve	answer questions about a text, by retrieving (finding) the information from the text
sequence	understanding the order of the text
Writing	
grapheme	the written form of the phoneme
common exception words	words that we use regularly that break the common phonic rules in some way (children should be able to spell their year groups common exception words by the end of the year)
segmenting (Fred fingers)	sounding out the sounds in a word in order to spell it (children use their Fred fingers – pinch the sounds onto their fingers)
punctuation	the marks used to separate sentences and clarify meaning e.g. full stop . question mark ? exclamation mark ! comma ,
finger spaces	the amount of space that needs to be left between words
sentence	a group of words that convey a meaning
statement	a sentence ending with a full stop
full stop	a punctuation mark (.) we use at the end of a statement
question	a type of sentence that requires an answer

question mark	a punctuation mark (?) we use at the end of a question
command	a sentence telling someone to do something, usually ending in an exclamation mark
exclamation sentence	a statement that expresses strong emotion
exclamation mark	a punctuation mark (!) we use at the end of an exclamation !
conjunctions	words that are used to connect parts of sentences
subordinating conjunctions	subordinating conjunctions help to add the extra information that tells us when, why or where something happens – examples: because, if, before e.g You should get out of bed when your alarm goes off.
coordinating conjunctions	coordinating conjunctions are joining words that link together parts of a sentence – examples: but, and, or e.g. I had a terrible cold but I still went to school.
comma	a punctuation mark (,) indicating a pause between parts of a sentence or separating items in a list
apostrophe	a punctuation mark (') used to indicate either possession (e.g. Harry's book) or the omission of letters (he's)
possessive apostrophe	a punctuation mark (') used to indicate possession (e.g. Harry's book, the girls' toys)
contractions / contracted forms	act of two words becoming one and using an apostrophe for the missing letters e.g. I'm, they've, she's
suffix	a single letter or group of letters added to the end of the word which changes the word's meaning e.g. es, ing, ment, ful
prefix	a group of letters added to the beginning of a word which changes the word's meaning e.g. dis, un
homophones	words that sound the same but are spelt differently and mean different things e.g. be & bee, see & sea, male & mail
near-homophones	words which is pronounced almost the same as another word but has a different spelling and meaning e.g. further & father
genre	a type of writing e.g. postcard, diary entry, report, instructions
noun phrase	a small group of words which include a noun e.g. the man, a cat
expanded noun phrase	a small group of words which include a noun and an adjective e.g. the tall man, a cute cat
noun	a person, place or object e.g. Wendy, Bingham, table
adjective	a word which describe a noun (a describing word) e.g. hard, red, pretty
verbs	an action word (a doing word) e.g. spin, blink, swim
adverbs	a word which describes a verb e.g. fast, bravely, gently
past tense	writing using words to show something has already happened e.g. went, had, were
present tense	writing using words to show something is happening right now e.g. going, have, are
handwriting	forming letters correctly (tall – letters with an ascender, tail – letters with a descender, short – letters without an ascender or descender e.g. n, s, x)
ascenders	the part of a letter which extends above a short letter – example letters: l, t, d, b
descenders	the part of a letter which extends below a short letter – example letters: j, p, q, y
joining line	the part of a letter which extends out in order to join another letter to it