



Use the plural and possessive 's

The letter 's' is added to the end of a root word for two reasons –

1. To show that there is more than one thing (plural).
one gorilla = three gorillas

2. To show that something belongs to someone.
Selina's car was in desperate need of a wash.

Use apostrophes to show plural possession

When there is more than one person/thing, an apostrophe to show possession is added after the 's'.

The girls' football skills were improving.

Some plural words do not end in an 's'. E.g. team and children. Here, an apostrophe and an 's' is added to the end of the word.

The children's behaviour was applauded.

Use inverted commas

Inverted commas are used around direct speech. The actual words that are spoken are enclosed in the inverted commas. At the end of a piece of speech, there should be a full stop, comma, question mark or exclamation mark before the inverted commas are closed.

"Would you like a glass of water?" asked Monty.

A comma comes before the first inverted comma, if the direct speech is written after the speaker's name.

Sam replied, "That would be lovely."

Use the present perfect form of verbs

The present perfect form describes something that has happened in the past but is still ongoing or its consequences are still being felt now.

The words 'has' or 'have' are added to the simple past tense verb.

He has worked as a hairdresser for six years.

I have been saving for a new surfboard.

GRAMMAR



Use standard English verb inflections

Standard English must be used instead of local spoken forms.

X	✓
We was walking.	We were walking.
I done it.	I did it.
He brung a hat.	He brought a hat.
I weren't doing that.	I wasn't doing that.

Use nouns and pronouns to avoid repetition

Pronouns are used in place of a noun that has already been used to avoid repeating it.

Monkey lifted his paw and toppled the pile of coconuts. With a quick glance, he greedily filled his arms with as many as he could carry and made his way to find Tiger.

Spell homophones correctly

Homophones are words that are spelled differently and have different meanings, but they are pronounced the same (or almost the same).

You must accept responsibility.

Everybody attended the party, except Katie.

Whose coat is this?
Who's ready to leave?


Use a range of prefixes and suffixes

Prefixes are added to the beginning of a root word to change its meaning. Suffixes are added to the end of a root word to change its meaning.

comfort + **able** = **comfortable**
un + comfortable = **uncomfortable**
uncomfortable has a prefix and suffix.



GRAMMAR



Extend sentences with a range of conjunctions

A conjunction is a word that links two words or clauses together. Sentences can be extended using a range of conjunctions.

Tony got the fright of his life **when a seagull swooped down and stole his lunch.**

She had a wonderful day **although the weather was somewhat miserable.**

Check spellings in a dictionary

Use the first three letters of a word to check a spelling using a dictionary.

1. Say the word aloud, that you are trying to spell, to identify the first three letters.

E.g. **business.**

2. Take the first letter of the word and locate that section in the dictionary. **A dictionary is written in alphabetical order. E.g. For 'business', locate the 'B' section.**

3. Repeat this process for the second and third letter of the word. **E.g. Find all the words that begin with 'bu' and then 'bus'.**

4. Once you find the full spelling of the word, read the definition to check that it matches the word that you wish to use.

Using adverbs

Adverbs are words that provide more detail about a verb, modify adjectives and other adverbs. They often tell the reader how, where, when or why the action is happening. Adverbs can be used to express time and cause.

It will be too dark to play outside **soon.**

Shelby **occasionally spotted a moving shape but the deer were **too** far away.**

Use fronted adverbials

Fronted adverbials are words or phrases that are used at the start of sentences to describe the action that happens afterwards. They usually describe when, how or where an action occurs.

A comma is often used after a fronted adverbial.

Before he could react, she threw the apples at him.

On the horizon, the boats bobbed and rocked.

Within moments, he was off his lead and running.

Using preposition

Prepositions tell somebody where or when something is in relation to something else. They link the noun, pronoun or noun phrase to another part of the sentence.

Ahmed munched on popcorn **during the film.**

The school bus pulled **onto the car park.**

Use paragraphs to organise ideas

Paragraphs are a collection of related sentences that are grouped together because they are based on the same topic. A new paragraph should be started when the writer changes time, place or topic. We often start a new paragraph when introducing a different character. In non-fiction texts, related paragraphs will be grouped with a sub-heading.

Create noun phrases with modifying adjectives, nouns and prepositions

Adjectives, nouns and prepositional phrases can be used to add further detail to a noun phrase.

The **strong Viking warrior saw the **terrified** man **across the beach**.**

The **old house **at the bottom of the hill** is supposed to be haunted.**