

SPAG revision guide

letter

- Lower case letters
- a, b, c, d, e, f
- Always use when we write into a sentence
- I went shopping
_____ I was hungry.
- Emma was feeling very ____ happy.
- Upper case letters = capital letters
- A, B, C, D, E, F
- Start of sentence
- Proper nouns (days of week, months of year, people and place names, nationalities and languages)

singular/regular plurals

- Singular = one
- Box
- Cat
- Wolf
- Penny
- Baby
- Regular plurals = more than one
- Boxes
- Cats
- Wolves
- Pennies
- babies

irregular plurals

Most common:

- Woman/women
- Child/children
- Tooth/teeth
- Person/people
- Mouse/mice
- Goose/geese
- Potato/potatoes
- Cactus/cacti

Some nouns have the same form in the singular and plural:

- Sheep/sheep
- Fish/fish
- Deer/deer
- Species/species
- Aircraft/aircraft

noun

A noun is the name of:

- A person
- A place
- A thing
- A feeling

Nouns are divided into:

- Proper nouns
- Common nouns
- Collective nouns
- Abstract nouns

noun phrase

Can be a singular noun or a pronoun:

- **People** like to do sports.
- **I** am tired.
- **It** is cold.

Can be a determiner & a noun:

- **Those** houses are lovely.

Adjective and noun:

- My **best friend** is great.

Complicated noun phrases:

- I bought **a loaf of fresh, crusty, brown bread.**

statement

- A sentence that states something.
- Punctuated with a **full stop**.
- It was cold.
- We went swimming last week.
- The children bought sweets.
- They saw giraffes, tigers, elephants, pandas, kangaroos and monkeys at the zoo.
- The new restaurant (Indian Ocean) opened last night.

question

- Requires an answer.
- Punctuated with a question mark.
- ?
- Can start with Who, When, Where, Why, What
- Also Can, How, Did, If, Please, Do, Are, Could, Have, etc...
- Question Tags:
- A statement + a question tag.
- You brought the dog in, didn't you?
- She was amazing, wasn't she?
- I gave you a present, didn't I?

command

- Imperatives
- Tell you to do something
- Can be punctuated with a full stop or an exclamation mark.
- Can be a single word or more complex.
- Stop!
- Open it!
- Go away.
- Leave me alone.
- Put your coats away and sit on the carpet.

exclamation

- All exclamations start with 'How' or 'What'
- Are punctuated with an exclamation mark.
- 'How awful!'
- 'What a wonderful idea!'
- Other sentences can have an exclamation mark but they are **NOT** exclamations.

suffix

- This is something that is added to the **end** of a word.
- -ful
- -ness
- -ment
- -tion
- -cian
- -s
- -es
- -ship
- -hood
- -less
- -able
- -eable
- -ed
- -er
- -est
- -ly

adjective

- Describing word
- Qualifies the noun or pronoun
- Gives more information about the object signified
- big, dusty, purple, obvious
- old man
- careless girl
- obvious choice
- untidy room
- Nouns can be used as adjectives for example, the **kitchen** table

verbs

- Regular verbs and irregular verbs
- Verbs are 'action words', 'doing words' and 'being words'
- Sing
- Drink
- Jump
- Eat
- Don't forget irregular verbs:
- I **am** nine.
- I **have** no money
- I **went** to the shop.

adverbs

- Adverbs describe verbs
- Many adverbs end in 'ly' for example:
- **Bravely**, she climbed the tree.
- He opened the door **quietly**.
- Please sing **gracefully**.
- But many adverbs do not end in 'ly'
- He ran **fast**.
- Will she arrive **soon**?
- It is getting **worse**.
- Are you working **hard**?

past tense regular

- Something that has already happened
- The past is something that has already happened
- This is called the past tense
- It is usually formed by adding the suffix-ed
- Climb/climbed
- Jump/jumped
- Cole opened the door and sprinted to school.
- Caitlin painted a picture and smiled with delight.

past tense irregular

- Many verbs do NOT follow the + -ed rule
- Drink/drank
- Sit/sat
- Think/thought
- Swim/swam
- Eat/ate
- Bring/brought
- Sing/sung
- Draw/drew
- Am/was
- Going/went
- I **put** on my coat and **drank** my **drink**.

apostrophe for omission

- omission = contraction
- This is where letters are missed out in a word and an apostrophe is used
- cannot = can't
- I am = I'm
- did not = didn't
- Be careful: **Harry's** late for school. (Harry is)

For the test this is STRICT!

Apostrophes must be:

- The correct size
- The correct direction
- Correct height
- Correct space

apostrophe for possession (singular)

- possession = ownership
- The **girl's** coat was on the floor.
- **Livia's** brother is called Aswin.
- The **school's** playground is amazing.

For the test this
is **STRICT!**

Apostrophes must be:

- The correct size
- The correct direction
- Correct height
- Correct space

apostrophe for possession (plural)

- When more than one person owns something
- The **girls'** coats were on the floor.
- The **footballers'** kits were dirty.
- The **children's** work was amazing.

For the test this is STRICT!

Apostrophes must be:

- The correct size
- The correct direction
- Correct height
- Correct space

commas in a list

- Commas are used to separate items in a list
- Jeeva is kind, thoughtful, well behaved, sensible and good fun!

For the test this is **STRICT!**

Commas must be:

- The correct size
- The correct direction
- Correct height
- Correct space

prepositions

- Describe location – where something is:
above, after, around,
before, behind,
during, from, in, on,
opposite, since, than,
toward, under, within
etc...
- Prepositional phrases
= the preposition + its
object
- We will be back **in a
few days.**
- The lion was killed **by
the hunter.**
- I had an argument
with my brother.
- We've got a new car
with power-steering.

conjunctions

- You might know these as connectives - please call them conjunctions
- They connect clauses
- They coordinate words in the same sentence
- Some sentences have a main clause and a subordinate clause so we need sub-ordinating conjunctions
- Co-ordinating conjunctions are: and, but, for, nor, or, yet, so
- Sub-ordinating conjunctions are: because, although, before, while, though, if, even though, when, since, after etc...

word family

Many words are connected with a root word, for example:

- help/helper/helpful/unhelpful/helping
- educate/education/educator
- appear/disappear/appearance
- graph/photograph/autograph
- Child/ children/ childish/childlike/childhood
- Act/actor/action/activity/react

prefix

- Inserted at the beginning of the word
- All prefixes have a meaning
- Here are the most common ones and their meanings:
- anti- against
- auto- self
- bi - two
- de- opposite
- dis- not, opposite
- in-, im-, il- ir -not
- inter - between
- mid- middle
- mis-wrongly
- non-not
- over- over
- pre- before
- re- again
- semi- half
- sub- under
- super- above
- trans- across

subordinate clause

- Will begin with a **subordinating conjunction** or a **relative pronoun**
- Contains a **subject** and a **verb**
- Is **not** a complete sentence by itself.
- The party was ruined **after Amy smashed the cake.**
- You cannot go out to play **until the bell has gone.**
- **Even though it was not raining,** the children did not go out to play.
- Charlotte gave a handful of crumbs to the birds **who were pecking at her feet.**

direct speech

- Use inverted commas “
- All punctuation must be inside the inverted commas
- The person speaking can be at the beginning of the sentence or the end.
- If the speech is interrupted we need 2 sets of inverted commas.
- “This grammar lesson is so exciting!” announced Kien.
- Lillie said, “This grammar lesson is so exciting!”
- “Do you really think that grammar lessons are exciting?” asked Miss Barnes.
- “I think you are being sarcastic,” said Mr Lavin, “but try your best!”

consonants and vowels

- Consonants are: b, c, d, f, g, h, j, k, l, m, n, p, q, r, s, t, v, w, x, y, z
- Vowels are: a, e, i, o, u

using 'a' and 'an' as determiners

- We use 'a' for consonants
- Consonants are: b, c, d, f, g, h, j, k, l, m, n, p, q, r, s, t, v, w, x, y, z
- A sandwich
- A bus
- A monkey
- We use 'an' for vowels
- Vowels are: a, e, i, o, u
- An umbrella
- An elephant
- An ice-cream
- An adventurous story
- An ordinary day
- An hour?

determiners

- Determiners are at the beginning of a noun phrase
- 'a', 'an' and 'the' are all determiners
- There are many different types of determiners:
- Possessives: my, your, his, her, its, our, their, whose
- Demonstratives: this, that, these, those
- Quantifiers: three, six, some, many, more, several, a few, a couple, lots of, plenty of, most of,

pronouns

- Pronouns replace nouns in sentences
- I, me, he, she, herself, you, it, that, they, each, few, many, who, whoever, whose, someone, everybody,

Jack got up and ran down the stairs. Jack picked up Jack's bag, drank Jacks' drink and said bye to Jack's mum. Jack walked to Jack's school and saw Jack's friends.

possessive pronouns

- yours, mine, theirs, ours, hers, his, its

- Maddison is one of my friends.

Or

- Maddison is a friend of mine.

but not

- Maddison is a friend of me.

adverbial

- In grammar an **adverbial** is a word (an adverb) or a group of words (an **adverbial** phrase or an **adverbial** clause) that modifies or tells us something about the sentence or the verb.
- Information about: the time; the place; the manner
- Answer the where? When? How? Why? How often? How much? How long?

- I arranged to meet him outside the bank.
- I waited for half an hour but he didn't arrive.
- We first met when he became the manager of the bank.
- I sometimes see my cousin when I am in London.
- When the earthquake struck, we were sleeping peacefully in our beds.

modal verbs

- Modal verbs indicate the possibility of something happening
- can/ could
- may/might/must
- shall/should
- will/would
- could have
- should have
- couldn't you?
- shouldn't you?

relative pronouns & relative clauses

- A relative pronoun is used to connect a clause or a phrase to a noun or pronoun
- Introduces a **relative clause**
- who, whom, which, whoever, whomever, whichever, that
- The person **who** phoned me last night is my teacher.
- The person **that** phoned me last night is my teacher.
- The car **that** hit me was yellow.
- Miss Buckley, **who** is very kind, is my teacher.

parenthesis

- Word or phrase to add additional information
- Usually demarcated by a pair of brackets; a pair of commas or a pair of dashes
- () , , - -

The rest of the sentence needs to make sense **without** the parenthesis.

- The president (**and his assistant**) travelled by private jet.
- The president (**and his assistant**) were expected to arrive by 4pm.

subject

- The subject of a sentence is the person, place, thing or idea that is doing or being something
- Every sentence has a verb
- Every sentence has a subject
- Yesterday **Adam** danced on the table.
- **Ava** read in assembly in front of all the parents and children.
- The bathroom **floor** is filthy.
- An **eagle** hunts for its prey.

object

- The object in the sentence is that which is being acted upon
- Can be nouns, pronouns, phrases or clauses
- Ivetta accidentally kicked **Abigail** in the shin.
- Tai hates **biting his nails**.
- Everybody waited in the rain to see the **talented footballer**.
- At the buffet table, Oliver loaded **his plate** with chicken, pizza and chips.

active and passive

- In active sentences the thing doing the action is the subject of the sentence and the thing receiving the action is the object.
- Luchia washed the dishes.
- In passive sentences the thing receiving the action is the subject of the sentence and the thing doing the action is optionally included near the end of the sentence.
- The dishes were washed by Luchia.

antonyms and synonyms

Antonyms - words opposite in meaning to another

- cold - hot
- dark- light
- empty- full
- confident -shy
- drowsy- full of energy
- plentitude- rare
- authentic- fake

Synonyms - words that mean the same as another

- big - huge, gigantic, colossal, massive
- great - outstanding, excellent, brilliant
- dilligent- hardworking
- understand - comprehend
- prohibited - forbidden

colons

- Colons are used to introduce a list, introduce an explanation or in a play-script
- When used in a list

There are three countries in Scandinavia: Denmark, Norway and Sweden.

- When used to introduce an explanation

We had to organise a party: so many people wanted to celebrate.

- When used in a play-script

Lionel Messi: I am so excited to win the Ballon d'Or for the fifth time!

semi-colons

- The **semicolon** or **semi-colon** (;) is a punctuation mark that separates major sentence elements. A **semicolon** can be used between two closely related independent clauses, provided they are not already joined by a coordinating conjunction.
- Both sentences must make sense on their own and be on the same theme

- She was very tired; she had worked late the night before.

The semi-colon can also be used in a list.

- At the zoo we saw an elephant squirting water; penguins swimming; monkeys copying children and some rather noisy parrots!