

St Peter's School



KS1 Grammar Guide

In the 2014 National Curriculum children are expected to understand and use these terms:

Year 1 – letter, capital letter, word, singular, plural, sentence, punctuation, full stop, question mark, exclamation mark

Year 2 – noun, noun phrase, statement, question, exclamation, command, compound, suffix, adjective, adverb, verb, tense (past, present), apostrophe, comma

Adjective

Adjectives give us more information about nouns.

For example: A tall giraffe. The weather grew cold.

Adverb

Most adverbs, as their name suggests, tell us more about verbs. Adverbs like these are often formed by adding '-ly' to an adjective.

For example: The troll ate ravenously. The adverb 'ravenously' tells you how the troll was eating.

A few adverbs modify adjectives.

For example: The map is very old. The adverb 'very' tells you how old it is.

Apostrophe eg '

Apostrophes have two uses:

- to indicate a missing letter or letters in a shortened word.

For example: didn't (did not); we'd (we would).

- to show what someone or something owns or possesses. There is no apostrophe in ordinary plurals like tomatoes and videos.

For example: the extra-terrestrial's toenails (the toenails of the extra-terrestrial)

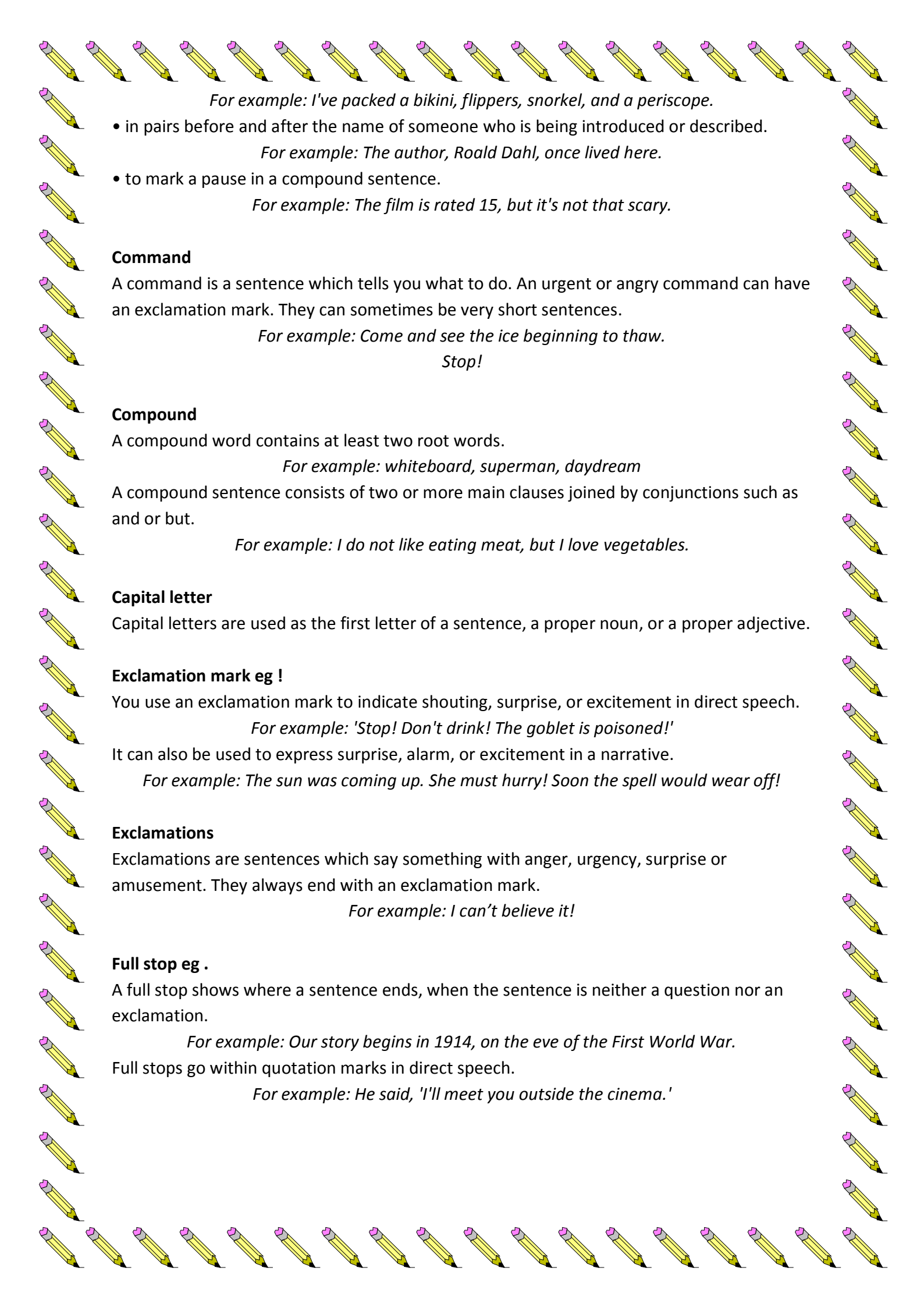
Comma eg ,

Commas are used:

- to mark a pause in a sentence, especially to separate a subordinate clause from the main clause.

For example: When the howling stopped, we ventured out from the cave.

- to separate items in a list or series.



For example: I've packed a bikini, flippers, snorkel, and a periscope.

- in pairs before and after the name of someone who is being introduced or described.

For example: The author, Roald Dahl, once lived here.

- to mark a pause in a compound sentence.

For example: The film is rated 15, but it's not that scary.

Command

A command is a sentence which tells you what to do. An urgent or angry command can have an exclamation mark. They can sometimes be very short sentences.

For example: Come and see the ice beginning to thaw.

Stop!

Compound

A compound word contains at least two root words.

For example: whiteboard, superman, daydream

A compound sentence consists of two or more main clauses joined by conjunctions such as and or but.

For example: I do not like eating meat, but I love vegetables.

Capital letter

Capital letters are used as the first letter of a sentence, a proper noun, or a proper adjective.

Exclamation mark eg !

You use an exclamation mark to indicate shouting, surprise, or excitement in direct speech.

For example: 'Stop! Don't drink! The goblet is poisoned!'

It can also be used to express surprise, alarm, or excitement in a narrative.

For example: The sun was coming up. She must hurry! Soon the spell would wear off!

Exclamations

Exclamations are sentences which say something with anger, urgency, surprise or amusement. They always end with an exclamation mark.

For example: I can't believe it!

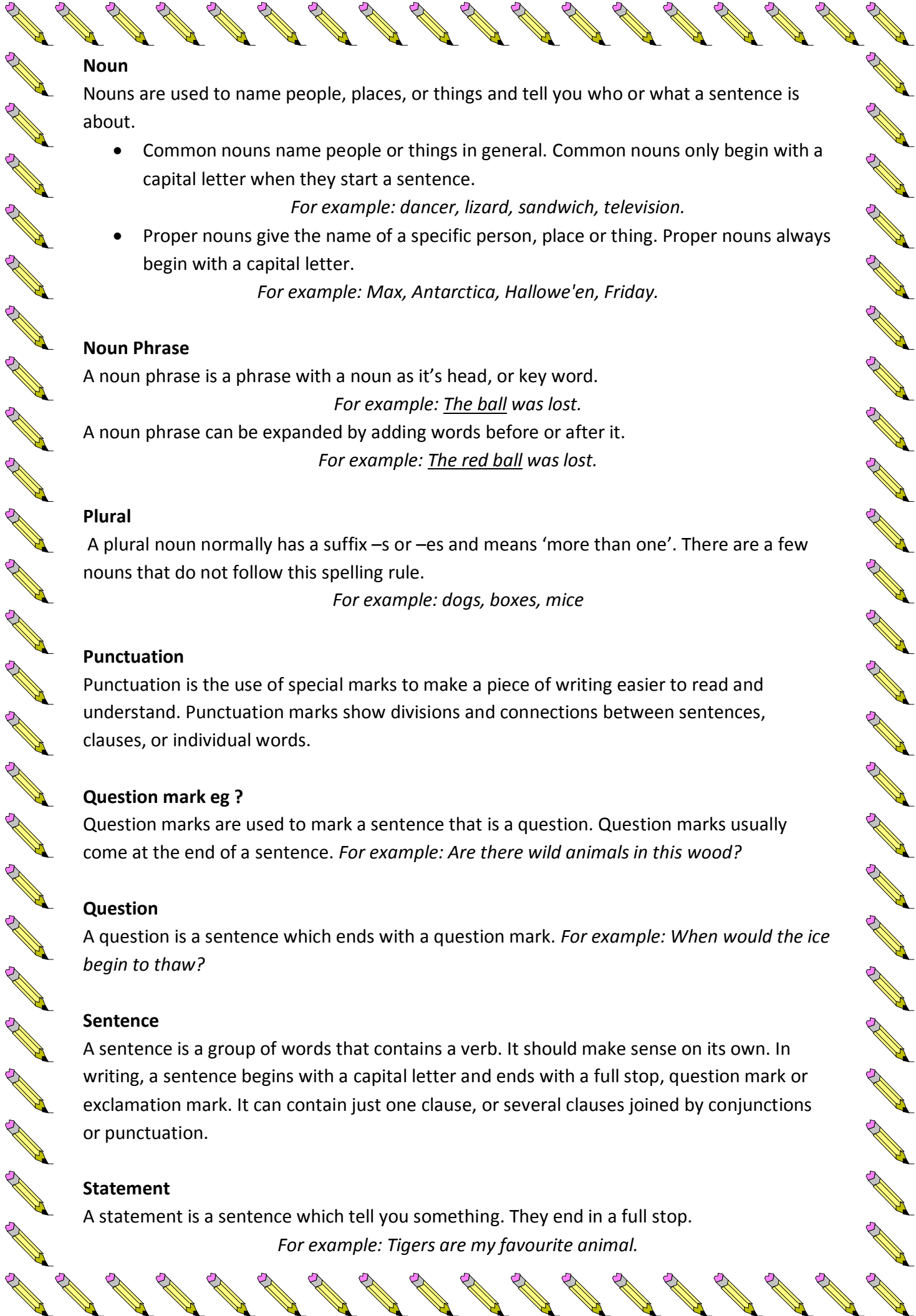
Full stop eg .

A full stop shows where a sentence ends, when the sentence is neither a question nor an exclamation.

For example: Our story begins in 1914, on the eve of the First World War.

Full stops go within quotation marks in direct speech.

For example: He said, 'I'll meet you outside the cinema.'



Noun

Nouns are used to name people, places, or things and tell you who or what a sentence is about.

- Common nouns name people or things in general. Common nouns only begin with a capital letter when they start a sentence.

For example: dancer, lizard, sandwich, television.

- Proper nouns give the name of a specific person, place or thing. Proper nouns always begin with a capital letter.

For example: Max, Antarctica, Hallowe'en, Friday.

Noun Phrase

A noun phrase is a phrase with a noun as it's head, or key word.

For example: The ball was lost.

A noun phrase can be expanded by adding words before or after it.

For example: The red ball was lost.

Plural

A plural noun normally has a suffix –s or –es and means 'more than one'. There are a few nouns that do not follow this spelling rule.

For example: dogs, boxes, mice

Punctuation

Punctuation is the use of special marks to make a piece of writing easier to read and understand. Punctuation marks show divisions and connections between sentences, clauses, or individual words.

Question mark eg ?

Question marks are used to mark a sentence that is a question. Question marks usually come at the end of a sentence. *For example: Are there wild animals in this wood?*

Question

A question is a sentence which ends with a question mark. *For example: When would the ice begin to thaw?*

Sentence

A sentence is a group of words that contains a verb. It should make sense on its own. In writing, a sentence begins with a capital letter and ends with a full stop, question mark or exclamation mark. It can contain just one clause, or several clauses joined by conjunctions or punctuation.

Statement

A statement is a sentence which tell you something. They end in a full stop.

For example: Tigers are my favourite animal.



Suffix

A suffix is an 'ending', used at the end of a word to turn it into another word. Unlike root words, suffixes can not stand on their own as a complete word.

*For example: teach – teacher
call – called*

Tense

The form of a verb that shows when something happens in the past, present and future.

Present tense *For example: I am walking.*

Past tense *For example: I have walked.*

Future tense *For example: I will walk.*

Verb

A verb can describe an action or process (for example: dive, chew, heal, thaw), a feeling or state of mind (for example: worry, think, know, believe), or a state (for example: be, remain). A sentence usually contains at least one verb.

(Source: www.oxfordowl.co.uk)

More information can be found at

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/244216/English_Glossary.pdf