

# Core learning in literacy by strand

## Read and write for a range of purposes on paper and on screen

### 11. Sentence structure and punctuation

#### Most children learn to:

- » vary and adapt sentence structure for meaning and effect
- » use a range of punctuation correctly to support meaning and emphasis
- » convey meaning through grammatically accurate and correctly punctuated sentences

Foundation Stage	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
<b>Write their own names and other things such as labels and captions and begin to form simple sentences sometimes using punctuation</b>	Compose and write simple sentences independently to communicate meaning  Use capital letters and full stops when punctuating simple sentences	Write simple and compound sentences and begin to use subordination in relation to time and reason  Compose sentences using tense consistently (present and past)  Use question marks, and use commas to separate items in a list	Show relationships of time, reason and cause through subordination and connectives  Compose sentences using adjectives, verbs and nouns for precision, clarity and impact  Clarify meaning through the use of exclamation marks and speech marks

Foundation Stage objectives in bold refer to the Early Learning Goals.

## Most children learn to:

### Year 4

Clarify meaning and point of view by using varied sentence structure (phrases, clauses and adverbials)

Use commas to mark clauses, and use the apostrophe for possession

### Year 5

Adapt sentence construction to different text-types, purposes and readers

Punctuate sentences accurately, including using speech marks and apostrophes

### Year 6

Express subtle distinctions of meaning, including hypothesis, speculation and supposition, by constructing sentences in varied ways

Use punctuation to clarify meaning in complex sentences

### Year 6 progression into Year 7

Extend their use and control of complex sentences by deploying subordinate clauses effectively

Use punctuation to convey and clarify meaning and to integrate speech into longer sentences

Use standard English confidently and consistently in formal writing, with awareness of the differences between spoken and written language structures

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