

Year 1 Sentences:

A Step-by-Step Guide for Parents

This step-by-step explanation to sentences can help you support your child's learning at home. The subject is broken down into manageable chunks, providing you with a simple guide to follow when exploring sentences together, either as part of homework or if you decide to give your child some extra support. Whether your child is only just beginning to write sentences, or they are gaining confidence with writing, you will find a step that matches where your child is at as well as some ideas for where to go next.

Within **this area of the website**, you will find a selection of resources intended to help your child learn about each step of this guide. Each step also contains a keyword or phrase that you can use to search the Twinkl site for more resources and activities, designed to support your child in achieving that stage. Simply type the keyword or phrase into the search bar and press enter to explore together.

We hope you find the information on our website and resources useful. The contents of this resource are for general, informational purposes only. This guide is intended to offer parents general guidance on what subject areas tend to be covered in their child's year group and where they could support their children at home. However, please be aware that every child is different and information can quickly become out of date. There are some subject areas that we have intentionally not covered due to the nature of how they are taught or because a trained professional needs to teach these areas. We try to ensure that the information in our resources is correct but every school teaches the national curriculum in its own way. If you would like further guidance or are unsure in any way, we recommend that you speak to your child's teacher or another suitably qualified professional.

Sentences

What Are Sentences?

A sentence is a group of words (or a single word, e.g. Help!) that means something and makes sense. Sentences begin with a capital letter and end with a full stop, question mark or explanation mark. A simple sentence has a subject and a **verb**:

The girl **walked** to school.

The dog **chased** the ball.

In year 1, children learn how words can combine to create sentences. They are taught how to write simple sentences such as the examples above as well as compound sentences, where two clauses are joined together using the conjunction 'and' (or, but and so are also conjunctions):

Lottie loves strawberries **and** she loves apples.

I'd love to come to the party **but** I have to go to my grandma's house.

As well as using the resources in this category and the keyword searches to help your child with sentences, below are a few ideas for games and activities to help your child learn how to write them.

Read, Read, Read!

Sharing books together is the most powerful way for children to learn about language, sentences, grammar and punctuation. When you are reading together, read examples of sentences aloud and discuss the punctuation as well as the meaning they convey.

Picture Prompts

Encourage your child to write simple sentences with this **writing prompt picture activity**. They can use the pictures as inspiration to create sentences using the correct punctuation that make sense.

Sentence Scramble

Look at the pictures in this **sentence scramble activity** and see if your child can put the words underneath in the correct order to form a range of sentences. Can they read it back to you? Does it make sense?

Say a Sentence

Write a selection of words on individual pieces of paper (such as dog, cat, girl, boy, shop, car). Put the cards face down and shuffle them. Then ask your child to pick a card and form a sentence using the word within a given time frame (e.g. ten seconds). Can they tell you what punctuation they would use?

Step 1

What Are Sentences?

In year 1, your child will learn how words can combine to create sentences – a group of words that make sense on their own. They will begin to write sentences by saying sentences out loud before they write them down. Note, that at this stage, children's writing will generally develop at a slower pace than their reading. This is because writing involves different skills such as spelling, organising ideas and the physical expertise needed for handwriting. This poster has a range of tips and advice for how your child can write perfect sentences at this stage.



Punctuating Sentences

By this stage, children will be beginning to punctuate their sentences correctly using a capital letter and a full stop, question or exclamation mark. They will ensure that words are separated with spaces and begin to use capital letters for names and the personal pronoun 'I'. This sentence writing prompt activity is designed to help your child practise writing simple sentences.

Step 2

Step 3

Joining Simple Sentences

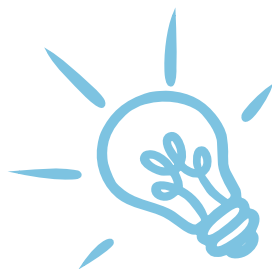
As your child's confidence with writing sentences increases, they will begin to write longer sentences, joining clauses with the conjunction 'and' to create compound sentences. You could go through this informative PowerPoint with your child to find out more about joining clauses with 'and' as well as a range of other conjunctions.



Adding Adjectives to Sentences

Once your child has mastered the skill of sentence writing, they will be encouraged to go back and check what they have written, making sure it makes sense. They will begin to explore how to add adjectives (describing words) to their sentences to make them more detailed for the reader. This guide outlines a range of adjective activities for you to try at home with your child.

Step 4



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Twinkl Boost is a range of intervention resources, created to support and lift learning with children at every level. These include our easy-to-use SATs and Phonics Screening resources.



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Imagine resources are designed to help your children to think creatively, question and imagine. Every week, a new topic consisting of five photos, each with related activities, is created.

Twinkl Originals are engaging stories written to inspire pupils from EYFS to KS2. Designed to encourage a love of reading and help curriculum-wide learning through accompanying resources.



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Twinkl Kids' TV is our wonderful YouTube channel dedicated to fun and informative video-style resources full of new and creative activities you can try at home!