

Year 2 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 exploring sentence writing, or they are gaining confidence with sentences and want to write longer texts, you will find a step that matches your child's stage of learning as well as some ideas for the next steps in your child's learning.

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 However, please be aware that every child is different and information can quickly become out of date.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 2, children will continue to build on their sentence work from year 1; learning how to use and write sentences with different forms (such as statements, questions, exclamations and commands). They will begin to write in more detail using adjectives and expanded noun phrases: for example, The beautiful butterfly. In addition, they will start to explore and use the present and past tense correctly as well as continue to join clauses to form more detailed sentences using the conjunctions (or connecting words) 'and', 'or' and 'but':

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 suggested keyword searches to help your child with sentences, a few ideas for games and activities to help your child learn how to write them are outlined below.

Read, Read, Read!

When you are reading a book with your child, find examples of different sentences such as commands and questions. Discuss the punctuation used and the meaning they convey. Are the sentences you've found written in the present or past tense? Can you change them from one tense to another? What changes and why?

Silly Sentences

Show your child a picture of an object, such as an apple or a plate of pasta. Ask them to think of different forms of sentences to address the object with – a statement, a question, an exclamation or a command. The sillier the better, for example: Why haven't you done your homework, apple? Can they use the correct punctuation?

Missing Punctuation

Write down some sentences with missing punctuation and capital letters. Can your child copy the sentences correctly? How would using a full stop, question mark or exclamation mark alter the sense of the sentence and how you would say it out loud?

Sentence Building Game

Use this **Silly Sentence Building Activity** to encourage your child to create sentences from the cards – the funnier the better. You could also test them on their knowledge of word classes by showing them individual words and asking them to tell you whether they are a noun, adjective or verb.

Step 1

Punctuating Sentences

In year 2, your child will continue to practise and build on their knowledge of sentence punctuation by using capital letters, full stops, question marks and exclamation marks to separate sentences. They will also be introduced to commas to separate items in a list as well as apostrophes to show missing letters (e.g he's for he is) and possession (e.g the girl's bike). This PowerPoint has been designed to encourage your child to practise key punctuation for year 2.



Adding Detail to Sentences

By this stage, children will start to add more detail to their sentences; painting a clearer picture in the reader's mind about what they are describing. In year 2, children will be introduced to noun phrases (naming words joined with other words that modify them, for example: a gigantic, green troll), adjectives (describing words), verbs (action words) and adverbs (where, when or how the action is happening). This resource pack has a wealth of activities to support your child with using noun phrases in their writing.

Step 2



Step 3

Different Forms and Types of Sentences

At school, your child will continue to explore the different forms sentences can take, such as statements, commands, questions and exclamations. They will continue to link phrases using coordinating conjunctions; these are words such as 'and', 'but' and 'so' that link ideas together. They will also be introduced to subordinating conjunctions to link ideas; these are words such as 'when', 'if', 'that' and 'because'. These display posters can help clarify and explain these ideas further.

Develop Stamina for Writing

Once your child has mastered the skill of sentence writing, they will start to form ideas for longer pieces of writing about their personal experience, fictional stories or real events. They will be encouraged to develop a 'stamina' for writing. This means being able to write in more detail over a longer period of time, proofreading and checking for errors at the end. These writing frames can act as stimuli to encourage your child to practise writing quality sentences for longer periods of time.

Step 4



Explore and Discover More

Twinkl Go! is a digital platform, hosting interactive content such as videos, games, audiobooks and more. Twinkl Go! enables digital content to be streamed to your computer or mobile device.



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Book Club

Twinkl Book Club is our book subscription service. Enjoy our original works of fiction in beautiful printed form, delivered to you each half-term and yours to keep!

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

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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KIDS' TV

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!