

**Rembrandt Park Primary School**

**Grade 4 English**

**LANGUAGE STRUCTURES AND CONVENTIONS**

**Term 3**

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## 1. Adverbs

Adverbs describe or tell us more about verbs. You can spot an adverb by:

- Looking for the **verb** in a sentence first.
- Then look for the word(s) that give you more information about the verb.
- Some adverbs tell us **how** an action was done. These are called adverbs of manner. They usually end in -ly.
- Other adverbs tell us **when** it was done. These are called adverbs of time. It answers questions to when? E.g. yesterday, now, before, always, today...
- Adverbs of place describe **where** and action takes place. It answers questions to where? E.g. outside, behind, next to, inside, near...

Exercise 1: Tick the correct box for the adverb.

	Adverb of manner	Adverb of time	Adverb of place
She danced <b>gracefully</b> across the stage.			
The tortoise <b>slowly</b> walked across the grass.			
We <b>now</b> underline the date and the heading.			
Please rule off <b>after</b> you are finished your work.			
Please put the books <b>into</b> the cupboard.			
The teacher sits <b>behind</b> her desk.			

Exercise 2:

- a. **Underline** the verb in each sentence.
- b. Circle the adverbs that tell us **how** an action was done in **red**.
- c. Circle the adverbs that tell as **when** the action was done in **blue**.

1. Yesterday, the cat tiptoed quietly towards the cage.
2. He squeaked loudly when he saw the cat approaching.
3. They will read their books soon.
4. Today, she hit the ball hard.
5. Harry completed his work correctly.

Look at the example:

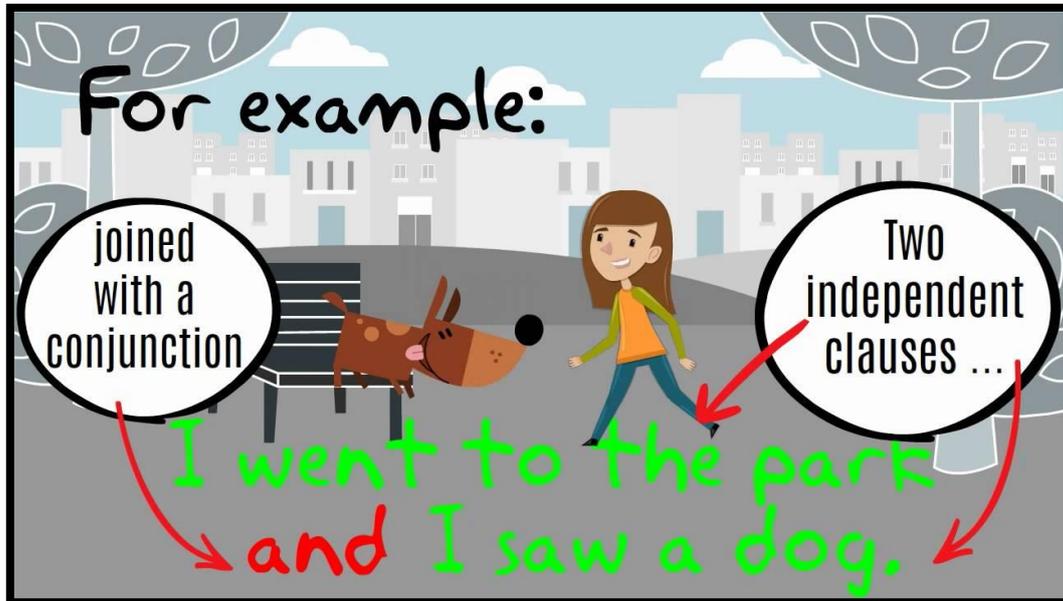
Yesterday, Mary and Bongji completed their work eagerly.

**Here is another adverb spotting tip... lots of adverbs end in -ly**

Exercise 3: Underline the verb and circle the adverb in each sentence.

1. Sarah patted the goat gently.
2. The fire engine blew its horn loudly.
3. In the library, we talked quietly.
4. The old man walked slowly.
5. The girls giggled noisily.
6. The animals fought fiercely over the meat.
7. The sun shines brightly during the day.
8. The doctor wrapped her broken arm carefully.
9. The marine served his country proudly.
10. Race horses run quickly around the track.
11. The wind blew rapidly across the city.

## 2. Complex Sentences



**Complex sentences** have more than one verb. Underline the verb in each of these simple sentences. Then join each pair of sentences to form a complex sentence by using the words in brackets.

- a. The girl walked slowly. She hurt her leg. (because)

The girl walked slowly because she hurt her leg.

“because” is the joining word, take out the full stop, change the capital ‘S’ to lowercase and finish the sentence then end it with a full stop.

- b. She could not sleep. She read a book. (so)

\_\_\_\_\_

- c. The dog wagged its tail. It was watching the cat. (because)

\_\_\_\_\_

- d. We baked a cake. We ate the cake. (and then)

\_\_\_\_\_

- e. I like grapes. I bought three bunches. (and so)

\_\_\_\_\_

In the above exercise you made **complex sentences**, now look at these...

Divide each of these complex sentences into two **simple sentences**. See the example:

The boy <b>limped</b> because he <b>hurt</b> his leg.	
The boy limped.	He hurt his leg.
Mary ate five cakes because she was a greedy girl.	
The dog barked because it heard a loud noise.	
I help my mother cook and then I help her set the table for dinner.	



#### 4. Conjunctions

Conjunctions join words, phrases or sentences together. **Think of a conjunction as the glue that sticks sentences together!** Examples of these words are: and, but, so, because.

Example: He completed the race. He received a medal.

(and)

He completed the race and received a medal. (**and** replaces the he in the second sentence)

Conjunction is the word which joins words, phrases, clauses or sentences.



**Activity 1:** Complete the sentences using the words from the word bank.

And	because	if	so	unless	whether	although	for	or
Then	until	while	though	when	since	but	however	yet

a. Mary ate chips. She drank juice.

\_\_\_\_\_

b. She did not go to school. She was sick.

\_\_\_\_\_

c. Sally went to her friend. She was able to work on her project.

\_\_\_\_\_

**Activity 2:** Underline the correct conjunction in each of the following sentences.

- Brush your teeth (after, before) you go to bed.
- I study hard (because, lest) I want to get good marks.
- He will not come (if, unless) you don't ask him.

**Activity 3:** Fill in the missing conjunctions. Use the word bank below to assist you.

and	whenever	as	although	if	that
-----	----------	----	----------	----	------

- His mother \_\_\_\_\_ father gave him a bicycle for his birthday.
- Please write to me \_\_\_\_\_ you can.
- I could not see it \_\_\_\_\_ it was quite dark.
- \_\_\_\_\_ it is raining, we have to go.
- Just tell me \_\_\_\_\_ you are too tired to go on.
- He was so hungry \_\_\_\_\_ he ate all the food.

**Conjunctions**

A conjunction joins parts of a sentence.

and, but, while, because, so

**Examples:**  
I ate a sandwich **and** I drank some juice.  
We can go to the park **or** we can go to the zoo.



## 6. Past and Future Continuous tenses

We use the continuous tenses for ongoing actions. Continuous verbs always end in **-ing**.

- The **present continuous tense** is used for **continuous actions in the present**. For example: I am eating. "am" is a present tense helping verb (auxiliary verb). "eating" is a continuous verb.
- The **past continuous tense** is used for **continuous actions in the past**. For example: I was eating. "was" past tense helping verb. "eating" is the continuous verb. How to form it: was/were +verb+ing
- The **future continuous tense** is used for **continuous actions in the future**. For example: I shall be eating. "shall be" is the future tense helping verb and "eating" is the continuous verb. How to form it: am/is/are+verb+ing

Exercise: Write the past continuous and future continuous forms of each sentence below.

See the example:

Present continuous tense: He **is** running.

Past continuous tense: He **was** running.

Future continuous tense: He **will be** running.

- a. He is recycling plastic bottles.

Past continuous

tense: \_\_\_\_\_

Future continuous tense: \_\_\_\_\_

- b. They are buying recycled plastic.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

- c. I am planting trees to clean the air.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

- d. She is watering the garden.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

- e. We walking instead of going by car.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

- f. People are burning fossil fuels.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

- g. We are celebrating.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

- h. I am turning off all unused appliances.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## 7. Similes

- A simile is something compared to something else to create an image in the reader's mind.
- It usually includes the words **like** or **as**.

See the examples below.

Simile	Meaning
Swim like a fish	Swims well
As quiet as a mouse	Very quiet
As wise as an owl	Clever
As solid as a rock	Very hard
Eat like a bird	Eats very little

Exercise: Match the columns

1. As mad as a	<b>d</b>	a. night
2. As light as a		b. eel
3. As sly as a		c. lemon
4. As sour as a		d. hatter
5. As white as		e. grass
6. As gentle as a		f. feather
7. As dark as the		g. snow
8. As busy as a		h. fox
9. As slippery as a		i. lamb
10. As green as		j. bee

It is fun to make up your own similes!

1. Use your imagination to make your own original similes.
2. Draw pictures to show how creative you are.

a. As noisy as _____	b. As sticky as _____
c. As playful as _____	d. As smelly as _____

## 8. Metaphors

A metaphor is something described as if it were something else. It does not include the words like or as.

Exercise: Underline the 2 things being compared in each metaphor. Draw a picture that explains each metaphor.

The cloud is a pillow in the sky.	Life is a rollercoaster.
She has a heart of gold.	Children are angels.

Tick the correct box.

	Simile	Metaphor
She is as beautiful as a flower.		
She is as bubbly as the bubbles in a cooldrink can.		
They like busy little bees.		
He is a worker bee.		
She is a flower.		
He is as sweet as chocolates.		
Her smile is like a ray of sunshine.		
She is a blessing.		
They sing like angels.		
He is a bookworm.		

