



KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER: English - Year 4 Block 3

Key Knowledge

Dialogue – Prepositions - Similes & Metaphor – Personification – Onomatopoeia - Pun

Key Vocabulary

inverted commas:

Punctuation marks - “ ” - used to demarcate direct speech in a sentence.

direct speech: A sentence where the exact words spoken are represented and shown in inverted commas.

dialogue: A conversation or speech that is written down as part of a piece of narrative text.

Try to remember...

Break up your dialogue with extra information and description to keep your reader interested and wanting to read more.

Starting Out!

Recognising what is being said.

If Caleb told me that he wanted an ice cream, Caleb could say the words:

I want an ice cream.

Use It!

Now, write what is being said as direct speech. You will need to correctly punctuate the direct speech using **inverted commas**, a **capital letter** to introduce the speech, a piece of **punctuation** at the end of what is being said and a **reporting clause** to tell the reader who is speaking.

“I want an ice cream,” Caleb told me.

Extend It!

To create an extended piece of **dialogue**, you will now need to include a response to what the previous speaker has said.

Each time a new person speaks, use a new line.

“I want an ice cream,” Caleb told me.

“Well, you can’t have one!” I snappily replied.

“Why not?”

“Mum told you that you can’t have a snack before your lunch,” I explained.

In extended pieces of dialogue, it is not always necessary to use a reporting clause for every piece of direct speech, as long as it is obvious who would have said it.

Become an Expert!

To become an expert at writing dialogue, try using the reporting clause at the beginning of the sentence. You may also wish to add in extra information:

Whilst stamping his feet and waving his hands towards the cart, Caleb shouted, “I want an ice cream!”

“Well, you can’t have one!” I snappily replied, tired of having the same conversation over and over.

“Can you please,” I reiterated, “stop irritating me!”

Congratulations – you have reached expert status!



A pun is a literary device that can also be called a ‘play on words’.

Some words sound alike or have more than one meaning. Puns make good use of these words by putting them together or using one to replace the other in a short phrase. Usually, puns aim to say something funny and so speakers and authors will often use puns to make their audience or readers laugh.

It’s difficult for crabs to share because they are shellfish.

What is Onomatopoeia?

Onomatopoeia is a word which sounds like what it means.



KNOWLEDGE ORGANISER: English - Year 4 Block 3

A simile is when you compare two different things to show a similarity. Similes say something **is like** something else.

Here are some examples:

As wise as an owl.

As graceful as a swan.

A metaphor is when you say something **is** something else (not just like it).

Here are some examples:

The teacher barked orders at the class.

Ants in your pants.

Personification is when you give an animal or object qualities or abilities that only a human can have.

Lightning danced across the sky.

The leaves waved in the wind.

The water beckoned invitingly to the sweaty swimmers.

Adverbs	Conjunctions	Prepositions
Modify verbs, adverbs, adjectives and clauses	Link words and phrases together.	Describe time, location and place.
Then Next Yesterday Soon Lately Frequently Later Now	When Because Before While So Until Yet If	Before After During Above Below Besides Due to With
Yesterday , we went to the zoo.	I don't like pizza because of the cheese.	We will leave after lunch.

