Learning objective
We are learning how to identify and use noun phrases in our writing.

What pupils already know
• Pupils will already know how expanded noun phrases can be used to describe and specify nouns in a sentence.

Key vocabulary
phrase, verb, noun, adjective, adverb, determiner

Teaching notes
• Remind pupils that we can add detail to a noun by using adjectives and the determiner the. Elicit that we use adjectives to describe a noun.

Example 1: Underline the adjectives and determiners in the sentence.

* Jamie kicked the old red ball.*

Show pupils how the underlined group of words describes the noun. Underline the noun ball as well, and tell pupils that now the underlined words form a noun phrase.

A noun phrase can stand in place of a noun. A noun phrase does not usually make sense on its own and it is not a sentence.

The sentence could simply have said ‘Jamie kicked the ball.’ The words ‘old red’ add more detail.

Example 2: Underline the noun phrase in the sentence.

* We are driving to France in the morning.*

Ask pupils to identify the underlined noun phrase. Explain that this noun phrase does not contain an adjective but it still adds detail. This phrase tells us when we are driving to France.

Independent activity
Refer pupils to the Year 4 Grammar and Punctuation Pupil Book, pages 12–13.
Use and apply

Task A: Add more detail

• Choose a noun in each sentence below, then add more detail by choosing words from the box.
• Now identify all the noun phrases in each sentence.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>true</th>
<th>hot</th>
<th>rude</th>
<th>lovely</th>
<th>all the</th>
<th>high</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

a) Heavy rain and winds will make travel difficult.

b) ‘You have a garden,’ sighed Rose.

c) I don’t want to serve those customers.

d) You are a hero.

e) Kittens are sleeping!

f) Soup will warm you up on a cold day.

Task B: Descriptive phrases

• Work with a partner.
• Look at the images below.
• Write two phrases to describe each picture. Do not show them to your partner.
• When you have finished, swap phrases with your partner.
• Can you work out which picture goes with each of your partner’s phrases?

Task C: The longest phrase

• Make the sentence longer by adding words to the noun.
• See how many words you can add to extend the noun phrase.

I want to buy the hat.
Determiners and articles

Learning objective
We are learning how to use determiners (the, a, an) correctly in our writing.

What pupils already know
• Pupils should already be using the, a and an in their writing.
• They should also be able to recognise vowel letters, consonant letters and to hear the difference between words that start with a silent h and words where the beginning h is sounded.

Key vocabulary
determiner, article, definite article, indefinite article, consonant, vowel, silent h

Teaching notes
• Explain to pupils that we put short words called determiners before nouns or adjectives. The short words a, an and the are the most common ones we use. These are also called articles.

Example 1: Which word is the determiner in each of these?

a boy the boy an owl the owl

Elicit from the examples that:
• We usually use the when we are talking about a particular thing. The is called the definite article.
• We usually use a or an when we are talking about a thing in general. A or an is called the indefinite article.

• Remind pupils that we use a before a word that starts with a consonant sound. We use an before a word that starts with a vowel sound.

Example 2: Would you use a or an before these words?

heart horse hour honest hair

Remind pupils that if the h at the start of a word is silent, we use an.

Make sure pupils can hear the difference between heart, horse and hair where the h is sounded, and hour and honest where it is silent.

Independent activity
Refer pupils to the Year 4 Grammar and Punctuation Pupil Book, pages 28–29.
Determiners and articles

Use and apply

Task A: Which article?

- Look at the sentences below.

- Decide which of the articles in the box belongs in each sentence.

- the  a  an  no article

- a) ___ Internet
- b) Mind ___ gap!
- c) You need to wear ___ sun hat.
- d) Never disturb ___ hornets’ nest.
- e) Wear ___ sunscreen if it’s hot.
- f) Christmas
- g) At ___ zoo we saw zebras.
- h) We also saw ___ baby elephant.
- i) Close ___ door, please!
- j) It made ___ hairs of my head stand on end.
- k) Jupiter is ___ biggest planet in our solar system.
- l) He’s ___ honest young man.

Task B: Code breaker

Choose the correct option to complete each sentence. Write down the letters of the correct answers. Rearrange the letters to find the hidden word.

- a) Holly is ___ smartest dog in training class.
- b) I have ___ idea! Let’s go swimming.
- c) I would like to learn how to play ___ flute.
- d) Tony loves eating ___ pizza.
- e) Next week we are going to ___ theme park.
- f) Edinburgh is ___ capital city of Scotland.
- g) I’ll take ___ blue top.

- A the  B an  C a  D no article  E the  F an

Task C: Idiom central

- Complete these well-known idioms using the correct articles.
- When you have finished, discuss with your partner what you think the idioms mean. Think of a situation when you might use one.

- a) To talk ___ hind legs off ___ donkey.
- b) ___ ball’s in your court.
- c) You are barking up ___ wrong tree.
- d) ___ bird in ___ hand is worth two in ___ bush.
- e) She likes to call ___ spade ___ spade.
- f) It’s not over until ___ fat lady sings.
Progress test 3

1 Turn these sentences into a dialogue, using correct direct speech punctuation.

That’s my parrot! said Karen. Well said the fireman he was making a tremendous noise in this tree, and disturbing all the neighbours. It won’t happen again said Karen.

2 This sentence contains one mistake. Find the mistake and say what kind of mistake it is.

‘Watch out! said Matt, ‘these cliffs are dangerous!’

3 Correct the sentence, adding full stops and capital letters.

my favourite book is demon dentist the pictures are fantastic and it is very funny

4 Write three things you need to remember to check when you proof read your writing.

5 When you are writing a dialogue and a new person starts speaking, what must you remember to do?

6 Find and correct the mistakes in this text.

At Easter we went to Ireland for our holiday. We went walking in the hills, which were relly steep. after that we wen to craggy bay which has a beach and we even went swimming. I was very tried that day.

7 Which punctuation marks tell us the exact words that someone said?

8 Add suitable punctuation marks at the end of each of these sentences.

a) Oh no
b) What do you mean
c) This is delicious

9 Rewrite this message in standard English.

I wasn’t doing nothing.

10 Which sentence uses direct speech punctuation correctly?

a) ‘Tell us about your holiday, said the teacher.
b) ‘Tell us about your holiday,’ said the teacher.

11 Write an exclamation sentence, remembering to use the correct punctuation.

12 Add speech punctuation to this sentence.

I don’t feel well said Nate.

13 Write this message in informal English.

Can’t come. Me dad’s car’s broke.

14 Which of these is a question?

a) She ran quickly home.
b) We all told her not to run!
c) Why is she running?

15 Add inverted commas in the correct places in the sentence.

Write your name here said Mrs Jameson.

16 Find and correct the mistake in the sentence.

I might not be able to go out tonite.

17 Which sentence uses Standard English?

a) Hi all. Thanks for coming.
b) Good evening, ladies and gentlemen. I’d like to extend a warm welcome to all of you.

18 Add correct direct speech punctuation to this sentence.

Hey, how are things? asked Jane.

19 Add full stops and capital letters to make the sentence correct.

emma and her family went camping they were lucky with the weather

20 Which sentence uses non-standard English?

a) You watchin’ the match? Murray’s playin’ wicked.
b) Are you watching the match? Murray’s playing brilliantly.

Score 0/20
End-of-year test

1. Find the fronted adverbial in the sentence.
   While you were asleep, Aunt Joyce came.

2. Find and correct the errors in the sentence.
   I losted the receipt so I can’t take them bak.

3. Write out the sentence adding an apostrophe in the right place.
   Lucy’s new trainers look very expensive.

4. Write the punctuation mark needed at the end of a question.

5. Replace the underlined words with suitable pronouns.
   Gavin bought Gavin’s mum some chocolates for Gavin’s mum’s birthday.

6. Write out the sentence adding speech marks in the correct places.
   I hope Maria gets home soon, said Mum.
   It’s getting late!

7. Write the plural forms of these singular nouns.
   a) piano     b) potato
   c) sheep      d) goose

8. Reorder the words to make a sentence that contains a fronted adverbial.
   Larry felt after the party very tired

9. Which word class is not usually found in noun phrases?

10. Find the pronouns in this sentence.
    She says she’s not very hungry now so she’ll have hers later.

11. Complete the sentence using was or were.
    _____ it very hot in Greece?

12. Which one of these can be used to start a paragraph in non-fiction writing?
    a) heading
    b) subheading
    c) caption

13. Punctuate this sentence correctly using direct speech.
    Oh no sighed Josh Not another puncture

14. Use an apostrophe and the letter s if necessary to correct this sentence.
    Dad picked Jo rucksack off the floor.

15. Which of these are noun phrases?
    a) leafy park   b) inside out
    c) at the top   d) green glass jars

16. What name is given to an adverbial phrase when it is written before the verb?

17. Complete the sentence using suitable pronouns.
    Maisie hopes _____ will get a new bike for _____ birthday.

18. Complete the sentence using did or done.
    Our gerbil _____ a little dance for us in her cage.

19. Find the determiners in the sentence.
    On the way home we saw a duck with four ducklings.

20. Rewrite the sentence using standard English.
    Danny ain’t keen on fish ‘n’ chips.

Score 0/20