

# Year 6 writing tips and skills

## The basics...

Paragraphs to organise ideas:




Coordinating conjunctions:

for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so

Subordinating conjunctions:

if, since, although, when, as, while, after, before, until, because

Capital letters:

We travelled to Paris on Wednesday.

Full stops:

This is the end of the sentence.

Question marks:

How many marks did I get?

Exclamation marks:

What an incredible day!

Commas for lists:

I bought chocolate, cereal, milk and bananas.

Apostrophes for omission (contractions) and possession

It's Georgia's bag.

Correct verb forms:



### Create atmosphere

Describe the setting / character (simile / personification / metaphor)

The sky was like a cauldron.

The wind whined, growled and howled across the tundra.

His eyes were piercing blue rays.

### Use dialogue to advance the action

"Why are you carrying that?" he bellowed as she clambered through the doorway.

"I've just found it," she replied. "It was buried under the ancient oak."




### Use a range of cohesive (linking) devices

Use pronouns:

Freddie loves playing the drums, he finds them captivating.

Use adverbials and conjunctions to make your writing flow:

Finally... Seconds later...

After a moment's hesitation...

Glancing quickly over his shoulder...

### Passive and modal verbs

Modal verbs show how definite the action will be:

may, might, could, would, ought, should, can, will, shall, must

Passive tense:

Matthew broke the window.

The window was broken by Matthew.

### Use a wide range of clause structures

Darcy was good at football because her coach taught her lots of tricks.

Because her coach taught her lots of tricks, Darcy was good at football.

Last season, Darcy was good at football because her dad - a world-famous coach - had taught her lots of tricks.

### Adverbials, prepositions and expanded noun phrases

Prepositions:

Down, through, next to, over, above, between, underneath, besides, without, beneath, below

Adverbs:

Enthusiastically, finally, eventually, cautiously, hesitantly, viciously

Expanded noun phrase:

The rusted car with tarnished wheels...

An ancient stone lay beside the oval-shaped box.

