

The Grammar Toolkit

Have you been penalised for grammatical errors? Below are some definitions to help make sense of your feedback:

Grammatical Term	Definition	Example
Adjective	A describing word. Adjectives describe nouns	'A cheap pint' 'A hard exam'
Adverb	Adverbs describe verbs. They show <i>how</i> something is done	'He cheated noticeably'
Clause	The part of a sentence that contains a verb	'Students <i>love dancing</i> , they glide with elegance and grace.'
Conjunction	Word that joins two clauses in a sentence	'I went to the Union and got a taxi home.'
Noun	Describes a person, place or thing	'The Guidance Centre' 'The library'
Possessive	Indicates ownership	'My football shirt' 'Jim's lovely horse'
Predicate	Part of a sentence that describes the subject	'The doorman was big and hairy. '
Pronoun	Used in place of nouns	'I will give it to him tomorrow.'
Sentence	A coherent group of words containing a <i>subject</i> and a <i>predicate</i>	'The <i>shopkeeper</i> refused to serve me. '
Subject	Person, thing or idea that the sentence is addressing	'My <i>classmate</i> complained to our <i>tutor.</i> '
Subordinate Clause	Words that accompany a clause to make a coherent statement	'Students love dancing, they glide with elegance and grace. '
Tense	Verb usage to show past, present or future tense shifts	Past: 'I went to the bar' Present: 'I'm regretting it now' Future: 'I'll never go back again'
Verb	Describes an action or 'doing' word	'I hate billy goats' 'He walks homewards'