Leading Literacy



CPD for excellence in English

Plazoom Loom Videos: Fronted Adverbials

Takeaways from the video:

- An explanation of fronted adverbials to improve teachers' understanding
- Reference to key grammatical terminology including adverb, phrase, adverbial and fronted adverbial
- Teaching and learning examples that can be easily replicated for use with pupils

Press Pause Questions:

Slide 4

Which of the following words are adverbs? slowly, cautiously, once earlier, carefully, nearby

Slide 11

Can you identify the adverbial phrases in these sentences?

- In the middle of the forest, there was a haunted castle.
- The children ran to school this morning.
- Class 10 completed their work very quickly.
- Every morning, I walk to the newspaper shop.

EXTENSION: Can you identify what each adverbial is telling us?

Slide 14

Can you locate the adverbials in each of these sentences and then rewrite

them so that each sentence has a fronted adverbial?

- I had a lovely hot shower first thing this morning.
- I ate my breakfast next.
- I put my school clothes on after that.
- I made my way to school through the snow and slush.

Putting it into Practice

Provide children with a selection of adverbs and adverbial phrases. Ask them to sort them into categories e.g. how, where, when, how often.

Provide children with sentences containing one or more adverbials. Ask them to change the adverbial to change the mood of the sentence e.g. Carefully and methodically, the children erected the tent.... Carelessly and haphazardly, the children erected the tent.

Write sentences including adverbials on strips of paper. Show children how to cut the adverbial out of the sentence strip and move it to the beginning of the sentence.

Review Question

Encourage pupils to edit and improve their writing by considering the position of adverbials in their writing. Help them to evaluate where fronted adverbials help bring clarity (e.g. when writing instructions) and how they can be used to connect sentences to create cohesion (e.g. The children prepared for their day trip. Into their bags they put...).

