

1

Word classes

CAN YOU?

- Explain what a noun, an adjective, a verb and an adverb are.
- Identify common, proper and abstract nouns.
- Punctuate sentences starting with an adverb or an adverbial phrase correctly.
- Use adverbs to modify adjectives.

Abstract noun

This type of common noun names things that cannot be seen, like emotions.

For example: As **fear** took hold of Vishwa, he was unable to move.

SKILLS CHECK

Nouns are naming words for people, animals, places and things. There are two different types of noun: **common nouns** and **proper nouns**. Common nouns name general things. Proper nouns name specific things and start with a capital.

A noun can be modified by an **adjective**.

The **exceptional** courage of the soldiers helped win the war.

Verbs are 'doing' or 'being' words. They can be modified by **adverbs**. Adverbs can modify verbs by telling you more about manner (*calmly*), place (*there*), time (*today*) or degree (*very*).

Chloe shivered **violently** because she had forgotten her coat.

An adverb can also say more about an adjective...

It was a **ridiculously** expensive car.

...or more about another adverb.

Sam ran **really** quickly to the front of the line.

An **adverbial** is a word or phrase that behaves like an adverb. If it comes at the start of a sentence, it is called a **fronted adverbial** and is followed by a **comma**.

After a long wait, Frankie finally entered the enormous stadium to watch his favourite team.

Look at the different **word classes** in the sentence below.

