Milton's Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling Core Knowledge Overview – Year Five

Sentence types:

Statement – tells the reader something.
E.g. She walked to the park.

Command – tells someone to do something.
E.g. Pick up your book.

Question – asking something to gain more information.
E.g. What time is it?

Exclamation – a statement that is said with a strong emotion such as anger or surprise.
E.g. What a lovely day!

Modal verbs:

Modal verbs show the possibility or certainty of something happening.

E.g. He should do his homework.

She must brush her teeth.

He can go to the shop.

Fronted adverbials:

Words or phrases that come at the beginning of a sentence to explain how, where or when something is done (manner, place and time). They are followed by a comma!

E.g. As fast as he could, the little boy sprinted for the finishing line.

Immediately, she picked up her pencil.

Tense:

The verbs within your writing determine the tense of the sentence.

Simple past tense – the action took place in the past and is now finished.
E.g. I walked to my friend's house.

Simple present tense – the action takes place regularly.
E.g. I walk to my friend's house.

Past progressive – the action took place in the past over a period of time.
E.g. I was walking to my friend's house.

Past perfect – the action was completed by a particular point in the past
E.g. I had walked to my friend's house.

Present progressive – the action is taking place now.
E.g. I am walking to my friend's house.

Present perfect – the action is now completed
E.g. I have walked to my friend's house.

Relative clauses:

A relative clause is a type of subordinate clause and therefore doesn't make sense by itself. It adds more information to the noun that it follows and begins with a relative pronoun (who, that, which, when, where, whose, whom)

E.g. The crocodile, which had been lurking under the water, pounced towards its prey.

Conjunctions:

Use conjunctions to extend sentences:

Coordinating conjunctions join two main clauses

F – for
A – and
N – nor
B – but
O – or
Y – yet
S – so

> He walked past the lake and he walked to the hut.
>
> The shadow disappeared but he still felt scared.
>
> Would they come in or would they stay away?
>
> The night ended so he could finally fall asleep.

Subordinating conjunctions join a main clause and a subordinate clause (a clause that does not make sense on its own).

I – if
S – since
A – as
W – when
A – although
W – while
A – after
B – before
U – until
B – because

> His legs shook because of what he saw.
>
> It was the wind that ran up his back.
>
> He shivered when the cold touched his skin.
>
> He could be warm if only he was inside.

Direct speech:

To punctuate direct speech you need to remember some key rules:

- Inverted commas (" ") around the spoken words
- Capital letter after the opening inverted comma
- Punctuation is needed before closing the inverted commas
- A comma is needed to separate the spoken words and the reporting clause
- New speaker, new line

E.g. "Hello," said Tom.
The little boy said, "That's my toy."