**A year 4 writer’s toolkit**

1. **Build each sentence with care**



Each sentence should be about **one complete thought** and should have a start, middle and end.

I love playing football with my friends. CORRECT.

I love playing football with my friends it is so much fun. This is WRONG. There are two thoughts in one sentence. It needs splitting up into two sentnces.

**Capital letters** to start each sentence and for proper nouns.

**H**unter’s **B**ar

**W**est **H**am **U**nited

**M**r. **B**ainbridge

sheffield is spelled wrong.

**Full stops** used to end a sentence (or !?)

**Accurately spell** simple words accurately (there, because, were etc.)

**Neat handwriting** that is joined and sits on the line.



Wow!

Do you agree?

Lists with commas. Rod, Jane, Bungle and Freddy left the room.

No missing words

Know the difference between a **phrase** and a **clause**.

1. **Obey the rules of grammar**

Choose nouns or **pronouns** to **avoid repetition**. (He, she, they, him, her, them)

Write, explain and find these **word types**: noun, verb, adjective, adverb, subject, object, determiner and pronoun.

Using the **present perfect** form of verbs instead of past tense e.g. ‘She has lost her stickers’ and ‘I have lived in Sheffield for a long time.’

1. **Write brilliant stories**

Start a new **paragraph** when you change the time, person, topic or place. (TiP ToP)

Describe a **setting** in detail e.g. a rainforest, school or tundra

Describe a **character** with adjectives, powerful verbs and show don’t tell techniques.

As the footsteps tapped closer and closer, Jack felt his stomach muscles tighten. He flattened himself to the wall, the gritty bricks against his cheek. Sweat chilled his palms. He used both hands to steady the gun.

Write a story following a plot or **storyline**.

1. **Extend your sentences**

Join main and subordinating clauses by using **conjunctions**, (including when, if, because, although etc)

Use **direct speech** accurately. “I’m late for school!” screamed Mr. Beauchamp.

Show time, place and cause using **conjunctions** (when, before, while, after/where, wherever/ so that, because)

Use **fronted adverbials** at the start of a sentence, followed by a comma

 e.g. Silently and slowly, the man put his newspaper down.

1. **Use spelling patterns**

Use the **possessive apostrophe** with all singular nouns

e.g. The teacher’s green pen.

Use **prefixes (in-, im-, sub- ,inter-** and **suffixes** **(-tion, -sion, -ssion**

International, submerge, station, dimension, possession

Use the first 2 or 3 letters of a word to check its spelling in a **dictionary**

Learn and use the **Year 3/4 spelling list:**