

Standard English – some basics

March 2016- agenda

Apologies

Dictation test! (It will remain a secret – don't worry!)

Capital letters inc proper nouns

I/he/she was, we/they were

Should of

Apostrophes

Practice/practise

Dictation test – what have we remembered?

(Again, it's a secret 😊)

# **Dictation**

Write what you hear and fill in the blanks.

# How did you do?

Biff, Chip and Kipper were excited because it was December and nearly Christmas. It had started to snow! They wanted to practise their sledging. They found their dad's old sledge in the shed. "You should've asked my permission!" shouted Dad. "Besides, I need practice too!"

"We would've asked," replied Biff, "but we were really excited!"

# When to use **capital letters**

- Start of sentences – always
- **All days of the week:** Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday & Sunday
- **All months of the year:** January, February, March, April, May, June, July, August, September, October, November, December
- All names of people, places, roads, shops etc – all **proper nouns** (only one of it, not general).
- Different to **common nouns**

# was and were

For singular person (I/she/he) you would use was.

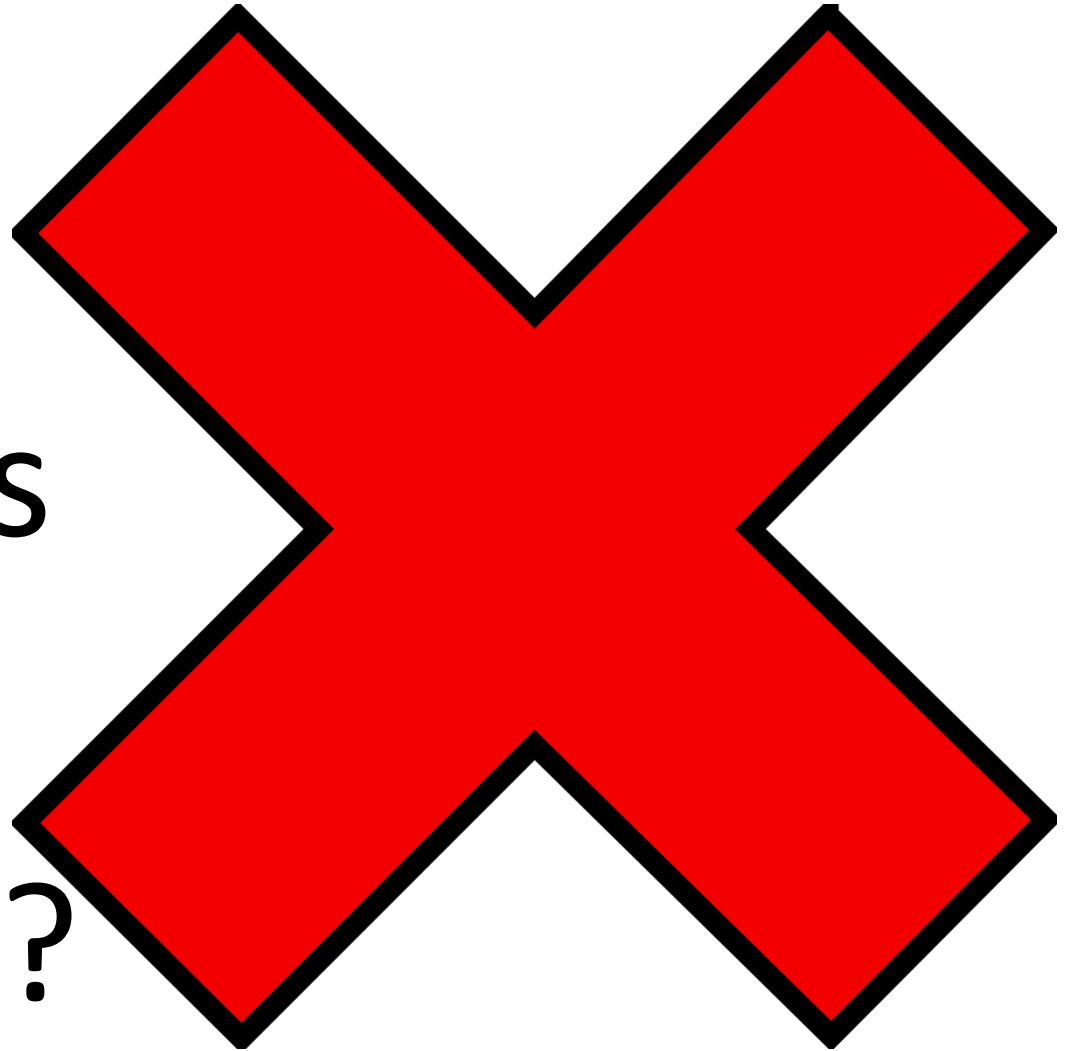
Eg – I was 6 yesterday! He was angry. She was going shopping.

For 'you' or the plural person (we, they) you would use were.

Eg – They were at the match. We were trying our best. You were brilliant at football today!

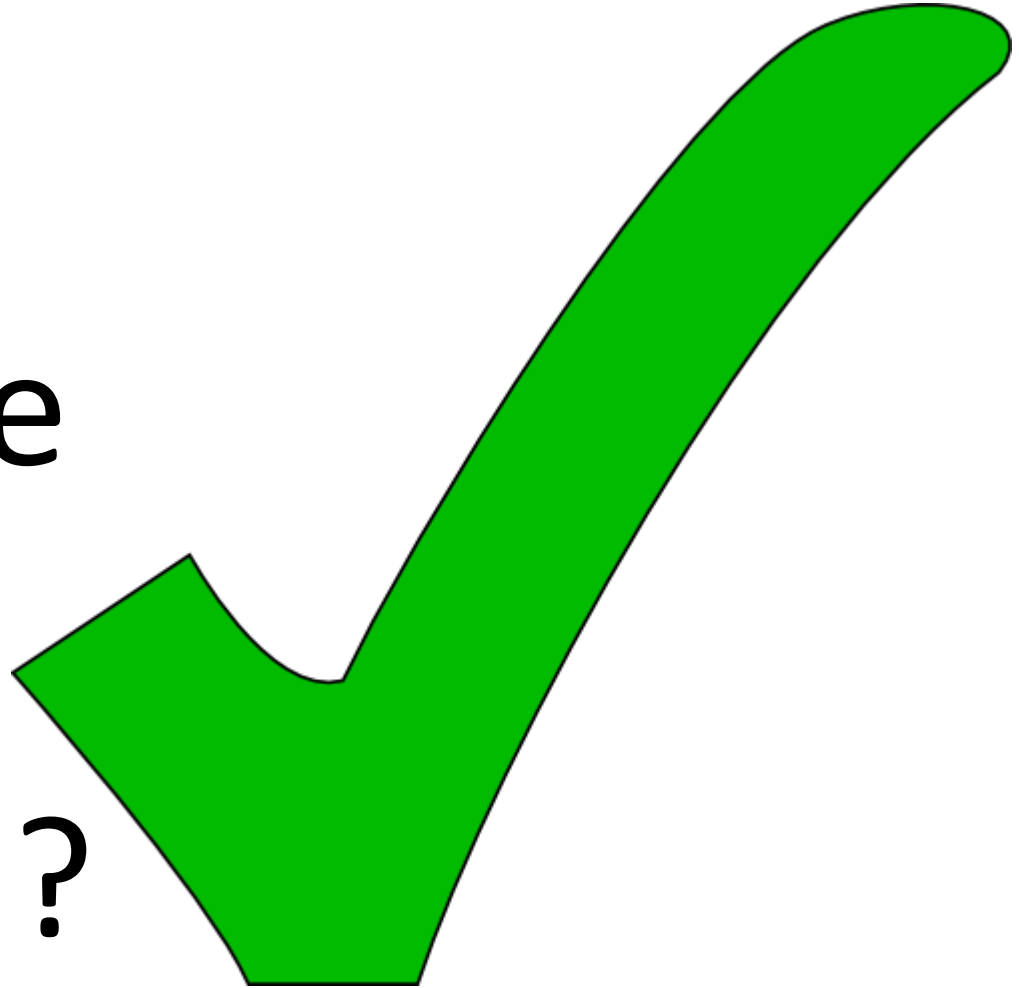
They're getting this wrong

- We was
- They was
- You was
- Was you?



How they should say it

- We were
- They were
- You were
- Were you?



# Was or were?

- The monkey .....climbing the tree.
  - The monkey **was** climbing the tree.
  - The children ..... misbehaving.
  - The children **were** misbehaving.
  - You ..... supposed to go through the back door!
  - You **were** supposed to go through the back door!
  - We ..... having lunch when the phone rang.
  - We **were** having lunch when the phone rang.
  - Why ..... You late?
  - Why **were** you late?
- 
- Debateable-
  - The family ..... excited about the snow!
  - The family **was** excited about the snow!



# Should 'of' and would 'of'

- Can't = can not
- Isn't = is not
- Didn't = did not
- I've = I have

The apostrophe is used to replace letters that have been removed.

- Should've = should have
- Would've = would have

Should of and would of does NOT exist.

# Apostrophes

- Two uses for apostrophes:
- Contractions (can't, don't, should've)
- Possession (the belonging apostrophe)

The bag that belonged to the lady =

The lady's bag.

The tail on the dog = the dog's tail.

# Apostrophes

- “Everybody, walk around in circles.”
- The trees were blowing wildly in the breeze.
- The puppies were fighting over the bouncy balls.
- There are 12 cookies for you to share.

Which sentences need apostrophes?

# Try this time:

- The ladys handbag was red and sparkly.
- The lady's handbag was red and sparkly.
- It made me smile when I saw my dogs tail wag.
- It made me smile when I saw my dog's tail wag.
- The boys cars were in his special box.
- The boy's cars were in his special box.

Debateable –

Jesus's disciples/ Jesus' disciples

# Practice and practise

- Practice is a **noun**
- Practise is a **verb**

If you can replace the word practice with **chocolate** then use 'c'. Only use 'c' when we know practice is something we need, want or have.

If you can change practise to another **verb** it has an 's' when we know it is something we are doing.

EG:

Times tables are hard for me, I need more practice.  
(I need more **chocolate**!)

I must practise my times tables to get better.  
(I must **read/tickle/eat**!)

Time to test again...

# How did you do this time?

The parents **were** chatting outside the gates.

“My **Jack's** had his spelling test today. He hasn't had much practice. I told him he needed to practise loads more. He should've learned them by now. It's all the months of the year. He keeps getting **February** wrong.”

# Thank you

Any questions?

