Name _____ Date _____

Check and improve

Read your writing back to fix mistakes, then make it even better.

1 Learn



Finished writing? Not quite! Read it back **slowly and out loud**, pointing at each word. Then do two jobs: **fix it** and **improve it**.

Fix it
- missing words
- spelling mistakes
- capital letters and full stops

Improve it
- swap a dull word for a better one
- add a detail that helps the reader

friend park brilliant
On Sunday, my ~~frend~~ and I went to the ^. It was ~~nice~~.

How Mia checked her writing

1. She read it aloud, pointing at each word: "…went to the. It was…" That sounds wrong! A word is missing, so she added **park**.
2. She looked hard at each word. *frend* doesn't look right, so she fixed it: **friend**.
3. She looked for a dull word. *nice* doesn't say much, so she swapped it for **brilliant**.

Flip's tip: your eyes can skip over a missing word, but your ears will catch it. Read it aloud!

Warm up: one word is missing from each sentence. Draw a ^ where it goes and write the word above.

Mia ate her lunch in hall.

I hung my coat on peg.

Grown-ups: read Flip's words aloud. Checking is a normal part of writing, not a sign that something went wrong. Even grown-up authors check and change their work.

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2 Try it together a child and a grown-up, about 10 minutes



Be the checker

You need: this sheet, a pencil, a coloured pencil or crayon, and a scrap of paper.

1. The grown-up writes three short sentences on the scrap with **three sneaky mistakes**: a missing word, a spelling mistake and a missing capital or full stop.
2. The child reads it aloud, slowly, pointing at each word.
3. The child fixes each mistake in colour, and writes what they found in the table.
4. The child finds one dull word and swaps it for a better one.
5. Swap jobs! The child writes, and the grown-up checks.

Mistake I found	How I fixed it
Dull word:	**Better word:**

Grown-ups: when it's your turn to check, you could "miss" a mistake on purpose and see if your child spots it. Keep it light and fun.

3 Practise

A. A word is missing from each sentence. Draw a **^** where it goes and write a word that fits.

We went to the beach in car.

Leo kicked ball over the fence.

My cat likes sleep on my bed.

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B. Draw a ring round the spelling mistake. Write the word correctly.

I was happy becos it was my birthday.
_____

My favrite colour is green.
_____

Gran gave me a big suprise.
_____

My frend came for tea.
_____

C. Swap the dull word in **bold** for a better one from the box.

enormous **shouted** **delicious** **brilliant**

The cake was **nice**. _____

We had a **good** time at the fair. _____

The dog was **big**. _____

"Stop!" **said** Mum. _____

D. Check Mia's writing. Find **4 things** to change: a missing capital, a missing word, a spelling mistake and a dull word. Mark them in colour.

last Saturday we went to the zoo. We saw a lion and tall giraffe. The monkeys were nice. We had a picnic becos it was sunny.

Challenge

Ava read her story with her eyes only, very fast. "No mistakes!" she said. But she had missed out a word. Why is it better to read it **aloud** and **point** to each word?

_____

_____

I can... Tick when you can.

- ☐ read my writing back aloud
- ☐ fix missing words and spellings
- ☐ swap a dull word