# Answers: What is a sentence?

What your child practised: a sentence is a group of words that makes sense, the words go in an order, and we leave spaces between them (Year 1 English: how words combine to make sentences).

### Page 1 · Warm up

I can see a bus. = **5** words
We like to swim. = **4** words

### Page 2 · Try it together

The frog is green. Swaps will vary, such as The frog is big. Check each word is in the right place and there are spaces.

### Page 2 · A. Count the words

Sam can kick. = **3**
The bus is red. = **4**
I can see the moon. = **5**

### Page 3 · B. Squashed words

The | cat | is | big.
I | like | jam.
We | play | out.
The sentence they copy should have a clear space between each word.

### Page 3 · C. In order

1. **The dog sat.**
2. **We can run.**
3. **Ben has a hat.**

**Challenge:** Leo forgot the **finger spaces**. It should be: **I saw a big dog.** There are 5 words, so there are 4 spaces.

### Watch out for

- **Counting the full stop as a word.** It is a mark that ends the sentence, not a word.
- **Words running together** when writing. Let your child rest a finger (or a lolly stick) after each word.
- **Muddled order**, like "The sat dog". Read exactly what they wrote, aloud. Ask, "Does that sound right?"

### Going further (5 minutes, no paper)

- **Clap a sentence:** say a short sentence and clap once for each word. How many claps?
- **Fix my muddle:** say three words in the wrong order ("ball I kick"). Your child says them the right way.
- **In the game:** Chapter 2, Build it yourself, has your child build sentence trains on their own.