

JAMAICA

# Primary Language Arts

Grade 6

NSC Edition

SAMPLE

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 **HODDER**  
Education

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## Word builder

### Vocabulary box

independent	government	culture
independence	Britain	reign
country	pre-independence	sovereign
history	post-independence	prehistory

- 1 Read the words from the vocabulary box with a partner and complete the table. Are there any words you do not know?

I know the meaning and how to say them.	I can read them, but I do not know what they mean.	I am not sure how to pronounce them or what they mean.

### ICT opportunity



Use an online dictionary to find the meanings of any words you do not know. Many online dictionaries play a recording of the word to show how to pronounce them, too.

- 2 The words *government* and *reign* have a silent letter each. Can you find them?
- 3 Look at the words *pre-independence* and *post-independence*. What is the same and what is different about the words?

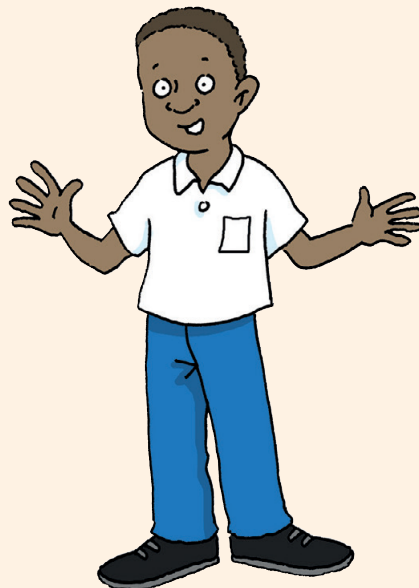
Prefix	Meaning	Word example	Word meaning
pre-	before	pre-independence	before independence
post-	after	post-independence	after independence

### Extra challenge

Use a dictionary or another research source to find other words that use the prefixes pre- and post-. See if you can write sentences using these new words.

### Remember ☆☆☆

A **prefix** is the part of a word added to the start to change its meaning or form a new word. Can you think of any other prefixes?





## Let's read

- 1 Read the text below and answer the following questions.

### Jamaica – A quick guide to an independent country

If you are coming to visit Jamaica, you will be interested to learn a little about this beautiful country and its proud history. In 1962, Jamaica became an independent country. Read this article to find out more about it:

#### Prehistory

Did you know that there have been people living on Jamaica for 6000 years? But, of course, the country was not named Jamaica in 4000 BC. The Jamaican National Heritage Trust is researching to find out more about the people who lived here before sailors from Europe arrived.

#### Pre-independence Jamaica

In 1494, Christopher Columbus sailed to Jamaica and it became a colony of Spain. After some years of Spanish rule, the country became part of the British Empire, and it remained that way until 1962.

#### Post-independence Jamaica

In 1962, Jamaica was declared a sovereign nation. This meant that for the first time in hundreds of years, the country ruled itself. There were great celebrations on the streets and all over the country.

#### A symbol of independence

You may be surprised to find out that Jamaica did not have its own flag before 1962. Although we have become used to seeing the flag draped around the shoulders of athletes, or flying from the flagpoles on government buildings, it was only raised for the first time on Independence Day.



This Jamaican flag was first raised on Independence Day in August 1962.

#### Geography facts

- Jamaica is the fourth largest island-nation in the Caribbean.
- It has over 1000 km of coastline.
- There are approximately two and a half million inhabitants in Jamaica.
- Tourism, mining and agriculture are important to the Jamaican economy.

- 1 Where might you find a text like this in your everyday life? Give two examples.
- 2 Which headings would you look for to find out about Jamaica before independence?
- 3 What do we call the sentence that introduces the main point of the paragraph?
- 4 Do you think that this text would be useful for visitors to Jamaica? Explain why.

### Extra challenge

Find all the sentences with the vocabulary from the “Word builder” activity. Are they nouns, verbs or adjectives in this context?

### Research and study skills

Text features help organise information in a text so readers know what is important.

- 1 Copy and complete this table.

Text feature	Purpose	Example in the text
Heading		
Introduction		
Bulleted list		
Caption		

When I answer comprehension questions, I often **skim** the text first. This means quickly reading to see how the text is organised. Then, when I need to find some information, I **scan** through to find the particular part I need.

- 2 Summarise the most important information from the text *Jamaica – A quick guide to an independent country*. Use the text features to guide you as you skim and scan the text for the information you need.
- 3 Who is the intended audience? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.
- 4 Which aspect do you find most interesting? Describe what you would like to find out more about and the different ways you would do your research.

Did you know that websites are not always accurate? Before a book is published, many people check to make sure there are no errors and that the information is accurate. For some websites, there are people who check and edit, but anyone can publish a website without any checks at all.



## Grammar builder

### Remember ☆☆☆

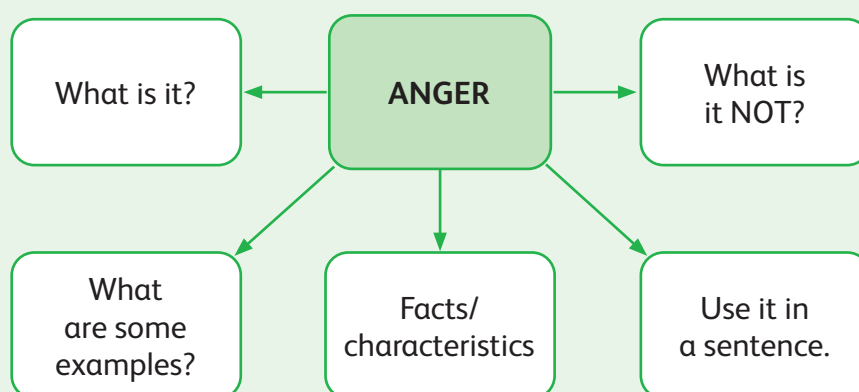
A noun is a part of speech. A noun names an object like *cat, dog, table, chair*. Find the nouns in this sentence:  
*The old horse lived in a stable.*

The nouns which name objects we can sense, point to or touch are called **concrete nouns**.

### Look and learn

Now we are ready to learn about a different kind of noun: abstract nouns. These are names for ideas or feelings. The words still name something, but you cannot touch them or point to them. For example: angry. You can point to someone who is angry or describe examples of anger, but you could never pick up anger and put it on the table or hide it under your hat!

- 1 *Kelly's anger burst just like Mike's balloon.* There is a concrete noun and an abstract noun in this sentence. Can you find them both?
- 2 Complete this mind map as a class for the abstract noun *anger*. Then choose some other abstract nouns from the table to create your own mind maps.



Abstract nouns for feelings	Abstract nouns for ideas
love, fear, hope, happiness	freedom, luck, fairness, independence

**Extra challenge**

Look at the vocabulary box in the “Word builder” lesson again. Complete a mind map for the abstract noun *culture*.



# JAMAICA

# Primary Language Arts

Grade 6

*Jamaica Primary Language Arts* covers all the Language Arts strands under the National Standards Curriculum (NSC), and assists students in interacting with methodologies and content, not only in Language Arts, but also in other disciplines across the NSC.

The Four Cs of communication, collaboration, critical thinking and creativity take centre stage in these appealing and engaging books. Students will be supported and encouraged in their journeys to becoming life-long learners. The books are task-oriented and student-centred, with many activities which students will find both engaging and relevant.

- ☀ Explore and develop phonemic awareness through a variety of games and activities.
- ☀ Learn and use literary terms and discover how to engage with different types of text.
- ☀ Guide students to an understanding of the structure of language.
- ☀ Explore written communication for a variety of purposes.
- ☀ Ensure a smooth transition to the next phase of learning.

**SAMPLE**

