

Varied Fluency

Step 1: Recognising Direct Speech

National Curriculum Objectives:

English Year 3: (3G5.7) [Introduction to inverted commas to punctuate direct speech](#)

Terminology for pupils:

- (3G5.7) [direct speech](#)
- (3G5.7) [inverted commas \(or 'speech marks'\)](#)

Differentiation:

Developing Questions to support recognising direct speech. Direct speech always has a reporting clause following it.

Expected Questions to support recognising direct speech. Direct speech has a reporting clause at its start, middle or end, or is standalone writing.

Greater Depth Questions to support recognising direct speech. Direct speech has a reporting clause at its start, middle or end, or is standalone writing. Questions feature more than one speaker.

[More resources](#) from our Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling scheme of work.

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Recognising Direct Speech

1a. Identify the words that are being spoken in the sentence below and write them in the speech bubble.

“How are you?” asked Freya, smiling at him.



Freya



VF

Recognising Direct Speech

1b. Identify the words that are being spoken in the sentence below and write them in the speech bubble.

“That cat is smelly,” said William with a frown.



William



VF

2a. Underline the speaking verb and who is speaking.

“We’ve got to run or we’ll be too late!” shouted Josiah.



VF

2b. Underline the speaking verb and who is speaking.

“I remember that joke now. It was so funny!” laughed Ellie.



VF

3a. Add any missing inverted commas to the sentences below.

I want us to win. Stop making so much noise!” hissed Toya.



VF

3b. Add any missing inverted commas to the sentences below.

“How far do we still have to go?” asked Nathan, looking back.



VF

4a. Underline the parts of the text that are being spoken.

The rain fell all day. An old roof tile slipped and let the water in.
“We need to get a bucket,” said Dad.



VF

4b. Underline the parts of the text that are being spoken.

“What a day it has been!” grinned Mum.
She was right. There was so much to do at the beach.



VF

Recognising Direct Speech

5a. Identify the words that are being spoken in the sentence below and write them in the speech bubble.

Anna gave Jack the pencil and snapped, "You'd better not lose it!"



Anna



VF

Recognising Direct Speech

5b. Identify the words that are being spoken in the sentences below and write them in the speech bubble.

"Wow!" exclaimed Micah. "This one's much heavier!"



Micah



VF

6a. Underline the speaking verb and who is speaking.

"What I don't understand," complained Ezra, "is why I have to do it."



VF

6b. Underline the speaking verb and who is speaking.

Grant slowly turned the page and muttered, "This is so boring!"



VF

7a. Add any missing inverted commas to the sentences below.

Don't press that!"
Kaley froze, her finger a millimetre from the button.



VF

7b. Add any missing inverted commas to the sentences below.

The thief sprinted away.
"Stop! yelled Vernon. That's my bag!"



VF

8a. Underline the parts of the text that are being spoken.

"It wasn't my fault," mumbled Rico. "It just sort of happened."
Mrs Li picked up a piece of the jug. Other pieces were all over the floor. Rico saw how upset Mrs Li was.
"I'm sorry," he said.



VF

8b. Underline the parts of the text that are being spoken.

The stars glinted in the night sky. Tara and Wei-Wei lay down and stared at them.
"How many millions of them are there?" Wei-Wei wondered. "They are beautiful!"
Tara was quiet. After a while, Wei-Wei whispered, "Tara, are you awake?"



VF

Recognising Direct Speech

9a. Identify the words that are being spoken in the sentences below and write them in the correct speech bubbles.

"I," declared Connie loudly so that Tasha could hear, "shall be on holiday!"
"I wish you'd stay there!" sneered Tasha enviously under her breath.



Connie



Tasha

VF

Recognising Direct Speech

9b. Identify the words that are being spoken in the sentences below and write them in the correct speech bubbles.

"Be careful leaving the train," ordered Mrs Sims as the children prepared to exit. Anika foolishly ignored her and was left screeching, "Ouch, that really hurt!"



Mrs Sims



Anika

VF

10a. Underline the speaking verb and who is speaking.

"Missile launch in... thirty seconds!"
"You have failed miserably!" crowed the voice of Dr Disaster, somewhere above.



VF

10b. Underline the speaking verb and who is speaking.

Max turned to Sian and quietly sniggered, "Have you noticed that hat?"
"It's so big and furry!"



VF

11a. Add any missing inverted commas to the sentences below.

We'll be fine!" insisted Carrie, merrily hammering a tent peg into the ground. It's just a light wind!"
"So you claim, grunted Evan.



VF

11b. Add any missing inverted commas to the sentences below.

"We shouldn't go in! squeaked Lisa as Joshua creaked the door open. "It's dark here," he gulped nervously, and worryingly cold."



VF

12a. Underline the parts of the text that are being spoken.

"Get down!"
Artem flung himself under the jeep, hearing the fizz of rocks flying too close. "Thanks for the warning, Professor!" he called to Anya, who was sheltering under the other car.
"No problem!" she yelled back, wide-eyed. "This volcano is getting angry!"



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12b. Underline the parts of the text that are being spoken.

Amber and Dylan strode eagerly towards the shops, coins at the ready. "I've got all my Christmas money," grinned Dylan. "What shall I buy?"
"Do you have enough for that Viking game?" inquired Amber.
"How much was it again?"
"I thought you would know!"



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Varied Fluency Recognising Direct Speech

Developing

- 1a. How are you
- 2a. 'shouted' and 'Josiah'
- 3a. "I want us to win. Stop making so much noise!" hissed Toya.
- 4a. 'We need to get a bucket'

Expected

- 5a. You'd better not lose it
- 6a. 'complained' and 'Ezra'
- 7a. "Don't press that!"
Kaley froze, her finger a millimetre from the button.
- 8a. 'It wasn't my fault', 'It just sort of happened' and 'I'm sorry'

Greater Depth

- 9a. Connie: I shall be on holiday
Tasha: I wish you'd stay there
- 10a. 'crowed' and 'Dr Disaster'
- 11a. "We'll be fine!" insisted Carrie, merrily hammering a tent peg into the ground.
"It's just a light wind!"
"So you claim," grunted Evan.
- 12a. 'Get down', 'Thanks for the warning, Professor', 'No problem' and 'This volcano is getting angry'

Varied Fluency Recognising Direct Speech

Developing

- 1b. That cat is smelly
- 2b. 'laughed' and 'Ellie'
- 3b. "How far do we still have to go?" asked Nathan, looking back.
- 4b. 'What a day it has been'

Expected

- 5b. Wow! This one's much heavier
- 6b. 'muttered' and 'Grant'
- 7b. The thief sprinted away.
"Stop!" yelled Vernon. "That's my bag!"
- 8b. 'How many millions of them are there', 'They are beautiful' and 'Tara, are you awake'

Greater Depth

- 9b. Mrs Sims: Be careful leaving the train
Anika: Ouch, that really hurt
- 10b. 'sniggered' and 'Max'
- 11b. "We shouldn't go in!" squeaked Lisa as Joshua creaked the door open.
"It's dark here," he gulped nervously, "and worryingly cold."
- 12b. 'I've got all my Christmas money', 'What shall I buy', 'Do you have enough for that Viking game', 'How much was it again' and 'I thought you would know'