

Application and Reasoning

Step 3: Direct or Indirect Speech?

National Curriculum Objectives:

English Year 4: (4G5.7) [Using and punctuating direct speech](#)

English Year 4: (4G5.7) [Use of inverted commas and other punctuation to indicate direct speech \[for example, a comma after the reporting clause; end punctuation within inverted commas: The conductor shouted, "Sit down!"\]](#)

Differentiation:

Questions 1, 4 and 7 (Application)

Developing Convert a speech bubble to direct or indirect speech. Uses direct speech with punctuation (closing with full stop or question mark only) and indirect speech in past tense with a reporting verb and linking word. Sentence stems provided.

Expected Convert a speech bubble to direct or indirect speech. Direct speech includes some punctuation. Indirect speech in past tense where the linking word may be omitted.

Greater Depth Convert a speech bubble to direct and indirect speech. Direct speech with punctuation. Indirect speech in past or present tense where the linking word may be omitted.

Questions 2, 5 and 8 (Application)

Developing Complete a sentence containing direct or indirect speech. Direct speech with punctuation (closing with full stop or question mark only). Indirect speech in past tense with a reporting verb and linking word.

Expected Complete two sentences containing direct or indirect speech. Direct speech stems include some punctuation. Indirect speech stems include past tense verbs.

Greater Depth Complete two sentences containing direct or indirect speech. Direct speech is punctuated but may not include the reporting clause. Indirect speech in past or present tense where a linking word may be omitted.

Questions 3, 6 and 9 (Reasoning)

Developing Decide whether a sentence that uses indirect speech has been punctuated correctly and explain your reasons.

Expected Decide whether a sentence that uses direct speech has been punctuated correctly and explain your reasons.

Greater Depth Decide whether the speech in two pieces of text has been punctuated correctly and explain your reasons. Multiple pieces of direct or indirect speech used.

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

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Direct or Indirect Speech?

Direct or Indirect Speech?

1a. Rewrite the speech bubble below as direct speech.



Josh

I like chocolate.

“_____ like _____,” _____ Josh.



A

1b. Rewrite the speech bubble below as indirect speech.



Maya

This toffee is chewy.

_____ that _____ toffee was chewy.



A

2a. Complete the sentence below using indirect speech.

I said that. . . .



A

2b. Complete the sentence below using direct speech.

“ ? ” Noah asked.



A

3a. Bailey has changed the direct speech below into indirect speech.

“Can I have a sandwich?”
George asked.

George asked, “if he could have a sandwich.”

Has he punctuated it correctly?
Explain your answer.



R

3b. Miranda has changed the direct speech below into indirect speech.

“I have some sweets in my bag,”
Isla said.

Isla told me that she had some sweets in her bag?

Has she punctuated it correctly?
Explain your answer.



R

Direct or Indirect Speech?

Direct or Indirect Speech?

4a. Rewrite the speech bubble below as either direct or indirect speech.



Oliver

Ouch, that hurt!

Remember to use correct punctuation.



A

4b. Rewrite the speech bubble below as either direct or indirect speech.



Anika

Can I play out?

Remember to use correct punctuation.



A

5a. Complete the sentences below using indirect speech with the correct punctuation.

Mum agreed

I explained.



A

5b. Complete the sentences below using direct speech with the correct punctuation.

Amy asked

. Jack promised.



A

6a. Maisie has changed the indirect speech below into direct speech.

Tom announced that he had won the race.

“I came first in the race”!

Has she punctuated it correctly?
Explain your answer.



R

6b. Amaan has changed the indirect speech below into direct speech.

Emma told me she had seen the new film last night.

“I saw the new film last night.”

Has he punctuated it correctly?
Explain your answer.



R

Direct or Indirect Speech?

Direct or Indirect Speech?

7a. Rewrite the speech below. Include both direct and indirect speech.



Jed

I promise I won't tell anyone your secret. You know that you can always trust me! After all, we have known each other since we were at nursery together.



A

7b. Rewrite the speech below. Include both direct and indirect speech.



Grace

I've decided to get my hair cut after all this time. It takes so long to dry in the morning when it's this long. Do you prefer having short or long hair?



A

8a. Complete the sentences below. Both sentences must use a mixture of direct and indirect speech.

Dad insists.

My friend suggests.



A

8b. Complete the sentences below. Both sentences must use a mixture of direct and indirect speech.

The police officer warned.

Our kind teacher encouraged. . .

. .



A

9a. Shaun has swapped indirect and direct speech in the sentences below.

Harry mentioned his least favourite Christmas film is The Grinch and that he won't watch it again. "It's far too long. I fell asleep the last time I watched it!" stated Harry. Harry said it's one of those films that is only good to watch once.

"My least favourite Christmas film is The Grinch. I won't watch it again! Harry explained that he found it too long so he fell asleep the last time he watched it. "According to my brother, it's one of those films that's only good to watch once."

Has he used all the correct punctuation? Explain your answer.



R

9b. Federica has swapped indirect and direct speech in the sentences below.

"I can't think of characters to use in my story." "Would you like some help to get started, Oliver?" his teacher offered. She asked him whether he wanted his main character to be good or evil. "Evil characters because they're more fun!" he explained.

Oliver said he was struggling to think of characters to use so his teacher offered to help. "Is your main character good or evil?" Oliver explained that evil characters are more fun.

Has she used all the correct punctuation? Explain your answer.



R

Application and Reasoning Direct or Indirect Speech?

Developing

- 1a. "I like chocolate," said Josh.
- 2a. Various answers, for example: I said that I was going out.
- 3a. No. Bailey has included an unnecessary comma and inverted commas are not used in indirect speech. The correct sentence is: George asked if he could have a sandwich.

Expected

- 4a. Various answers, for example: (direct speech) "Ouch, that hurt!" cried Oliver.
- 5a. Various answers, for example: Mum agreed that I could stay up later. I explained that I had forgotten my P.E. kit.
- 6a. No. Maisie has placed the exclamation mark after the closing inverted commas. The correct sentence is: "I came first in the race!"

Greater Depth

- 7a. Various answers, for example: Jed promised that he would not tell anyone the secret. "You know that you can always trust me!" Jed said. Jed reminded his friend that they had known each other since they were at nursery together.
- 8a. Various answers, for example: Dad insisted we finish our homework before we watch television. "I don't understand what I'm meant to do for my homework so I won't have any time to watch television!" mumbled Mia.
My friend suggests, "Shall we play a board game tonight?" I told her I would rather finish reading my new book.
- 9a. No. Shaun has forgotten to close the inverted commas after the exclamation mark. The sentence should read: "My least favourite Christmas film is The Grinch. I won't watch it again!"

Application and Reasoning Direct or Indirect Speech?

Developing

- 1b. Maya explained that the toffee was chewy.
- 2b. Various answers, for example: "Can I play with you?" Noah asked.
- 3b. No. Miranda has included an unnecessary question mark at the end of the sentence. The correct sentence is: Isla told me that she had some sweets in her bag.

Expected

- 4b. Various answers, for example: (indirect speech) Anika asked if she could play outside.
- 5b. Various answers, for example: Amy asked, "Can I have some sweets please?" "I won't do it again," Jack promised.
- 6b. Yes. The direct speech has been punctuated correctly because the inverted commas and full stop have been positioned correctly.

Greater Depth

- 7b. Various answers, for example: Grace decided she would have her hair cut. "I have decided to have my hair cut," Grace announced. "It takes so long to dry in the morning when it's this long," Grace moaned. Grace asked her friend whether she preferred having long or short hair.
- 8b. Various answers, for example: The police officer warned, "Make sure you lock your door as other houses have been broken into." He informed us that more burglaries are reported in winter. Our kind teacher encouraged Fred to swim two more lengths. "If you manage that, I'll tell your mum after school," said the teacher.
- 9b. No. Federica has used an unnecessary comma after the word 'him' to introduce indirect speech. The sentence should read: She asked him whether he wanted his main character to be good or evil.