

LO: to use inverted commas  
to punctuate direct speech.

# What are inverted commas or speech marks?

Speech marks are punctuation marks that show what somebody has said.

They are also called inverted commas, because they are commas that are inverted or reversed to go around the spoken words or dialogue.

# Success Criteria:

1. Put “ ” around what words the speaker says.
2. A new speech sentence starts with a capital letter (even if it is the middle of another sentence).
3. Separate what was said from speaker with a comma unless there is already a ? or an !
4. Start a new paragraph if a sentence has a new speaker saying something.

"This was interesting," said Mrs Boulton.



The shadow hissed,  
"Go away!"



"Where are we?" asked Jenny.



On your whiteboards, can you punctuate the speech in this sentence correctly.

The man shouted  
get out of the way!



The man shouted, "Get out of the way!"

Now put the speech marks and correct punctuation in the correct places in these sentences.

Don't forget to use the success criteria!

1. don't listen to me said Mark.

"Don't listen to me," said Mark.

2. jack whispered are we safe yet?

Jack whispered, "Are we safe yet?"

3. the manager called bring me that bag!

The manager called, "Bring me that bag!"

4. i need another drink gasped Louis.

"I need another drink," gasped Louis.

Now can you work out what is wrong with the punctuation in these sentences. Can you rewrite them correctly?

Don't forget to use the success criteria!

1. "Give me the chocolate" said Dan.

"Give me the chocolate," said Dan.

2. Gary asked, "shall I go next."

Gary asked, "Shall I go next?"

3. "Sam didn't finish his work, said Max."

"Sam didn't finish his work," said Max.

4. The girl snarled "you'll be sorry!"

The girl snarled, "You'll be sorry!"

Let's rewrite this paragraph together using the correct punctuation.

Remember to use the Success Criteria!

Tom and Barty should be here by now said Joshua. Don't worry responded Lucy Mae, I bet they are with Libby. No they aren't! snapped William. Libby is with Caitlin.

"Tom and Barty should be here by now," said Joshua.

"Don't worry," responded Lucy Mae, "I bet they are with Libby."

"No they aren't!" snapped William. "Libby is with Caitlin."

You're late she snapped. I don't think I am, Grandma replied George. Don't interrupt me in the middle of a sentence! she shouted. But you'd finished your sentence, Grandma replied George. There you go again! she cried. Always interrupting and arguing. You really are a tiresome little boy. What's the time? It's exactly eleven o'clock, Grandma said George. You're lying as usual. Stop talking so much and give me my medicine. Shake the bottle first. Then pour it into the spoon and make sure it's a whole spoonful snarled Grandma. Are you going to gulp it all down in one go? George asked her. Or will you sip it? What I do is none of your business the old woman said. Fill the spoon.

"You're late," she snapped.

"I don't think I am, Grandma," replied George.

"Don't interrupt me in the middle of a sentence!" she shouted.

"But you'd finished your sentence, Grandma," replied George.

"There you go again!" she cried. "Always interrupting and arguing. You really are a tiresome little boy. What's the time?"

"It's exactly eleven o'clock, Grandma," said George.

"You're lying as usual. Stop talking so much and give me my medicine. Shake the bottle first. Then pour it into the spoon and make sure it's a whole spoonful," snarled Grandma.

"Are you going to gulp it all down in one go?" George asked her. "Or will you sip it?"

"What I do is none of your business," the old woman said. "Fill the spoon."

## Mrs O'Callaghan's Set

You know what's the matter with you? the old woman said, staring at George over the rim of the teacup with those bright, wicked little eyes. You're *growing* too fast. Boys who grow too fast become stupid and lazy. But I can't help it if I'm growing fast, Grandma George said. Of course you can she snapped. *Growing's* a nasty childish habit. But we *have* to grow, Grandma. If we didn't grow, we'd never be grown-ups. Rubbish, boy, rubbish she said. Look at me. Am I growing? Certainly not. But you did once, Grandma. Only *very little*, the old woman answered. I gave up growing when I was extremely small, along with all the other nasty childish habits like laziness and disobedience and greed and sloppiness and untidiness and stupidity. You haven't given up any of these things, have you? I'm still only a little boy, Grandma. You're eight years old she snorted. That's old enough to know better. If you don't stop growing soon, it'll be too late.

"You know what's the matter with you?" the old woman said, staring at George over the rim of the teacup with those bright, wicked little eyes. "You're growing too fast. Boys who grow too fast become stupid and lazy."

"But I can't help it if I'm growing fast, Grandma," George said.

"Of course you can," she snapped. "Growing's a nasty childish habit."

"But we *have* to grow, Grandma. If we didn't grow, we'd never be grown-ups."

"Rubbish, boy, rubbish," she said. "Look at me. Am I growing? Certainly not."

"But you did once, Grandma."

"Only *very little*," the old woman answered. "I gave up growing when I was extremely small, along with all the other nasty childish habits like laziness and disobedience and greed and sloppiness and untidiness and stupidity. You haven't given up any of these things, have you?"

"I'm still only a little boy, Grandma."

"You're eight years old," she snorted. "That's old enough to know better. If you don't stop growing soon, it'll be too late."

Too late for what, Grandma? It's ridiculous she went on. You're nearly as tall as me already. George took a good look at Grandma. She certainly was a *very tiny* person. Her legs were so short she had to have a footstool to put her feet on, and her head only came halfway up the back of the armchair. Daddy says it's fine for a man to be tall George said. Don't listen to your Daddy Grandma said. Listen to me. But how do I stop myself growing? George asked her. Eat less chocolate Grandma said. Does chocolate make you grow? It makes you grow the *wrong way* she snapped. Up instead of down. Grandma sipped some tea but never took her eyes from the little boy who stood before her. Never grow up she said. Always down. Yes, Grandma. And stop eating chocolate. Eat cabbage instead. Cabbage! Oh no, I don't like cabbage George said.

"Too late for what, Grandma?"

"It's ridiculous," she went on. "You're nearly as tall as me already."

George took a good look at Grandma. She certainly was a *very tiny* person. Her legs were so short she had to have a footstool to put her feet on, and her head only came halfway up the back of the armchair.

"Daddy says it's fine for a man to be tall," George said.

"Don't listen to your Daddy," Grandma said. "Listen to me."

"But how do I stop myself growing?" George asked her.

"Eat less chocolate," Grandma said.

"Does chocolate make you grow?"

"It makes you grow the *wrong way*," she snapped. "Up instead of down."

Grandma sipped some tea but never took her eyes from the little boy who stood before her. "Never grow up," she said. "Always down."

"Yes, Grandma"

"And stop eating chocolate. Eat cabbage instead."

"Cabbage! Oh no, I don't like cabbage," George said.

# Did we meet our success criteria?

Success Criteria:	Did I meet the Success Criteria?
Put “ ” around what words the speaker says.	
A new speech sentence starts with a capital letter (even if it is the middle of another sentence).	
Separate what was said from speaker with a comma unless there is already a ? or an !	
Start a new paragraph if a sentence has a new speaker saying something.	
Challenge: Start a new paragraph if the narrative/story continues after speech.	