

Varied Fluency

Step 2: Punctuating 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 punctuating direct speech with missing punctuation including; speech marks, capital letters to start speech, comma before speech and punctuation to close the sentence (full stop or question mark only).

Expected Questions to support punctuating direct speech with missing punctuation including; speech marks, capital letters to start speech, comma before speech and punctuation to close the sentence. Some punctuation may be incorrect in the reporting clause and the wrong kind of punctuation for the manner or content of speech may be used.

Greater Depth Questions to support punctuating direct speech with missing punctuation including; speech marks, capital letters to start speech, comma before speech and punctuation to close the sentence. Some punctuation may be incorrect in the reporting clause and the wrong kind of punctuation for the manner or content of speech may be used. Multiple speakers can be featured in a single question.

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

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Punctuating Direct Speech

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1a. What punctuation is missing from the sentence below?

"do you like chocolate " asked James

A B C



VF

1b. What punctuation is missing from the sentence below?

Who didn't bring their homework in ↑ **B** **C** ↑
↑
A
asked the teacher.



VF

2a. True or false? Inverted commas have been used correctly in the sentence below.

“What time does the swimming competition start? asked Hafsa.”



VF

2b. True or false? Inverted commas have been used correctly in the sentence below.

“Can you come for dinner tomorrow?” questioned Steph.



VF

3a. Tick the sentences which are punctuated correctly.

A. "I can't come to the disco tomorrow," said Isabel.



B. “Goal!” screamed the football supporters.



C. "Nice to see you again," said the gentleman.



VF

3b. Tick the sentences which are punctuated correctly.

A. What are your favourite flavour of crisps? “asked Jake.” ☐



B. “Which bus do I get to town?” ☐ questioned Kelly.



C. "I can't wait for the party!" said Sean. ☐



VF

4a. Add the missing punctuation to the sentence below.

What time is the next bus asked the man



VF

4b. Add the missing punctuation to the sentence below.

Which football team do you support
asked the boy



VF

Punctuating Direct Speech

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5a. What punctuation is missing from the sentence below?

“do you want to come to the park after
 ↑
 A
 school? asked Lucy
 ↑ ↑
 B C



VF

5b. What punctuation is missing from the sentence below?

Gabriel asked “what is the difference
 ↑ ↑
 A B
 between football and soccer”
 ↑
 C



VF

6a. True or false? Inverted commas have been used correctly in the sentence below.

At the end of the match, Jake cheered, “I can’t believe it! We won!”



VF

6b. True or false? Exclamation marks have been used correctly in the sentence below.

“Today was the best day ever!” screamed Hannah, “I had so much fun!”



VF

7a. Tick the sentences which are punctuated correctly.

A. “Do you know what time the party starts?” asked my dad. ☐

B. Cian whispered, “Shall we hide behind the shed?” ☐

C. “I can’t find my school shoes shouted Hannah downstairs to her mum.” ☐



VF

7b. Tick the sentences which are punctuated correctly.

A. “Turn that music down!” my mum yelled upstairs to my sister. ☐

B. Can I be the goalie in the second half? “asked Ben.” ☐

C. “Should we go to the cinema or bowling this weekend?” asked Mum. ☐



VF

8a. Add the missing punctuation to the sentence below.

Please could I have a hot chocolate with marshmallows asked the lady



VF

8b. Add the missing punctuation to the sentence below.

Would you like ketchup or mayonnaise with your meal asked the waiter



VF

Punctuating Direct Speech

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9a. What punctuation is missing from the sentence below?

“do you need help? Sam asked Hannah.

↑
A

↑
B

“I’m fine thanks. she replied.

↑
C



VF

9b. What punctuation is missing from the sentence below?

“can we have egg and bacon on toast

↑
A

for breakfast ” asked Ben

↑
B

↑
C

“Of course!” Dad answered.



VF

10a. True or false? A question mark has been used correctly in the sentence below.

“Why can’t we go to the cinema?” asked Joe. “I really want to see the film.”



VF

10b. True or false? Inverted commas have been used correctly in the sentence below.

“How was the school trip today? asked Mum. It was great! replied Lucas.”



VF

11a. Tick the sentences which are punctuated correctly.

A. “Stop doing that!” said Lucy.
“You are really annoying me.”

☐

B. Jake moaned, “We always have to do what my sister wants to do.”

☐

C. “Alice mumbled, I don’t want to go to school today because I don’t feel well.”

☐


VF

11b. Tick the sentences which are punctuated correctly.

A. “Do you prefer chocolate ice cream?” asked Nina. “Or vanilla?”

☐

B. “How long is it until dinner? questioned Peter. I’m starving.”

☐

C. “Why do we always have to have vegetable pizza?” asked Isabel. “My favourite is pepperoni.”

☐


VF

12a. Add the missing punctuation to the sentence below.

Mr Jones was delighted with the football result well done everybody what a great game



VF

12b. Add the missing punctuation to the sentence below.

I really want to go to the ice cream parlour cried Sinead please can we go mum



VF

Varied Fluency Punctuating Direct Speech

Developing

- 1a. A – capital letter; B – question mark; C – full stop.
- 2a. False. The correct answer is; “What time does the swimming competition start?” asked Hafsa.
- 3a. B and C are punctuated correctly.
- 4a. “What time is the next bus?” asked the man.

Expected

- 5a. A – capital letter; B – inverted comma; C – full stop.
- 6a. True
- 7a. A and B are punctuated correctly.
- 8a. “Please could I have a hot chocolate with marshmallows?” asked the lady.

Greater Depth

- 9a. A – capital letter; B – inverted comma; C – inverted comma
- 10a. True
- 11a. A and B are punctuated correctly.
- 12a. Mr Jones was delighted with the football result, “Well done everybody! What a great game!”

Varied Fluency Punctuating Direct Speech

Developing

- 1b. A – inverted comma; B – question mark; C – inverted comma.
- 2b. True
- 3b. B and C are punctuated correctly.
- 4b. “Which football team do you support?” asked the boy.

Expected

- 5b. A – comma; B – capital letter; C – question mark.
- 6b. True
- 7b. A and C are punctuated correctly.
- 8b. “Would you like ketchup or mayonnaise with your meal?” asked the waiter.

Greater Depth

- 9b. A – capital letter; B – question mark; C – full stop
- 10b. False. The correct answer is; “How was the school trip today?” asked Mum. “It was great!” replied Lucas.
- 11b. A and C are punctuated correctly.
- 12b. “I really want to go to the ice cream parlour!” cried Sinead. “Please can we go Mum?”