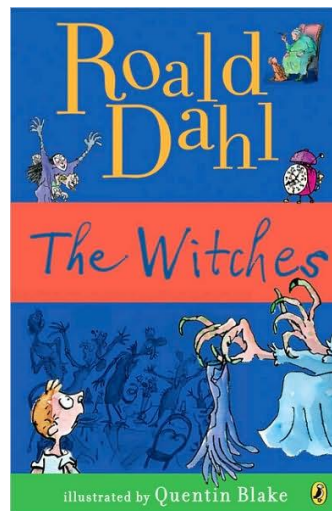
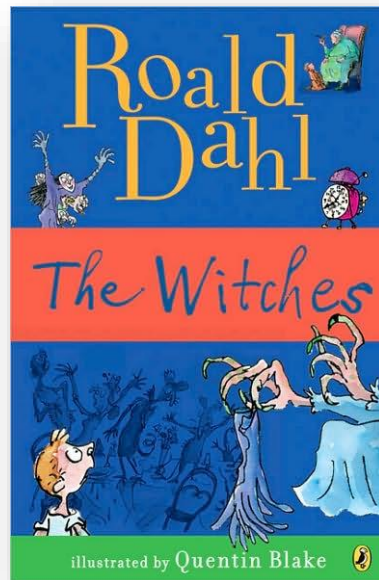


DIRECT SPEECH



Do you know what direct speech is ?



Direct Speech

- Direct Speech is **spoken language** written down as if it were a real overheard conversation.
- Words such as 'he said' and 'she asked' show who is speaking to who.



For example:

‘Why do they have such big nose-holes?’ I asked.
‘For smelling with,’ my grandmother said.



The purpose of direct speech

- Direct speech is used a lot in stories. It makes the characters believable and convincing.
- What the characters say and how they speak tells the reader a lot about them.



Be able to punctuate dialogue

- Direct Speech has its own special kind of **punctuation.**

‘For smelling with,’ my grandmother said.

Speech marks only go around the spoken words.

A comma is needed to separate the spoken part from the part telling you who is speaking, unless a question mark (?) or exclamation mark (!) is used.

‘For smelling with,’ my grandmother said.

‘Why do they have such big nose-holes?’ I asked.

‘No toes!’ I cried.

A new paragraph is needed every time a different speaker begins speaking.

‘Blue!’ I cried. ‘Not blue! Their spit can’t be blue!’

(Don’t need a new paragraph here because it’s the same person talking.)

Speech begins with a capital letter.

‘For smelling with,’ my grandmother said.

‘You will stay here with me,’ she said, ‘and I will look after you.’

(a capital letter isn't needed here because this is a continuation of the spoken sentence)

Copy the following sentences into your books, adding the correct punctuation.

Their spit is blue.

Blue! I cried. Not blue! Their spit can't be blue!

Blue as a bilberry she said.

Nobody can have blue spit I said.

Witches can she said.

Is it like ink? I asked.

Exactly she said.



‘Their spit is blue.’

‘Blue!’ I cried. ‘Not blue! Their spit can’t be blue!’

‘Blue as a bilberry,’ she said.

‘Nobody can have blue spit,’ I said.

‘Witches can,’ she said.

‘Is it like ink?’ I asked.

‘Exactly,’ she said.



Now write your own conversation for some of the characters in The Witches.

