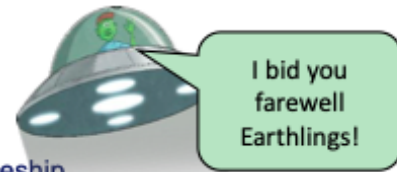


Video: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/zb2wjhv>

### Direct and Indirect (Reported) Speech

Within writing, there are two ways to narrate the words spoken by a character. These are called:

- direct speech
- indirect (or reported) speech



#### Direct Speech

"I bid you farewell Earthlings!" shouted Iggy from his spaceship.

- The exact words of the speaker are enclosed in inverted commas (speech marks).
- The correct punctuation is used before the inverted commas close.

#### Indirect Speech

From his spaceship, Iggy bid farewell to the Earthlings.

- In indirect speech, no inverted commas (speech marks) are used.
- The actual words of the speaker are often changed. The spoken words need to be in the correct tense, extra words may need to be added and pronouns may need to be changed (e.g. I → Iggy).

Look at these speech sentences. Are they examples of direct or indirect speech? If they are examples of direct speech, where should we place inverted commas?

Watch out! screamed George as he launched the frisbee.

Look at this photograph. Can you invent both a direct and an indirect speech sentence based upon it?




#### Example Sentences

##### Direct Speech

"I want an ice cream!" shouted the angry little boy.

##### Indirect Speech

The angry little boy shouted that he wanted an ice cream.

1	<p>Underline the spoken words in the sentences below.</p> <p>"Are you hungry?" asked Fletcher.</p> <p>"I wish I had a boat," said Murphy.</p> <p>"Stop him!" shouted the old lady.</p>	2	<p>Underline the sentences which use indirect speech below.</p> <p>Mrs Shaw asked the children to line up.</p> <p>Ali told the team they had played well.</p> <p>Kurt asked, "How are you feeling today?"</p>
3	<p>True or false? The sentences below are punctuated correctly.</p> <p>"It is my birthday today," said Arnold.</p> <p>Mia asked, "What time are we going?"</p> <p>The little boy shouted for help.</p>	4	<p>Rewrite the paragraph below so that it is correctly punctuated for direct speech.</p> <p>It can't possibly be right insisted Lucile. I thought they were happy and would stay here forever. I can't believe they've gone she sobbed.</p> <p>Did they say where they're going? asked Gregor quietly.</p>
5	<p>Rewrite the indirect speech as direct speech. Make sure that it is punctuated correctly.</p> <p>Clare mentioned that the weather will be lovely at the weekend. Lucas responded that they should go to the beach while it's sunny. Clare replied that she'd love to go. Lucas suggested that they should invite Sara and Alex to join them.</p>	6	<p>Nick has written the paragraph below:</p> <p>Samantha sobbed, "I've hurt my knee." Miss Hill asked her what had happened. "I tripped over when I was running around and scraped my knee on the ground," cried Samantha.</p> <p>Nick says,</p> <div>  </div> <div> <p>I have included indirect speech.</p> </div> <p>Is he correct? Explain your reasoning.</p>
7	<p>Rewrite the sentence below as <b>direct speech</b>. Remember to punctuate your answer correctly.</p> <p>She asked if he wanted a banana.</p> <p>She asked him, _____</p> <p>_____</p>	8	<p>Put the astronomer's words into direct speech.</p> <p>The astronomer said it was his ambition to discover as much as possible about our solar system.</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>

## ANSWERS

Direct and Indirect Speech	
1	<p>Underline the spoken words in the sentences below.</p> <p><u>"Are you hungry?"</u> asked Fletcher.</p> <p><u>"I wish I had a boat,"</u> said Murphy.</p> <p><u>"Stop him!"</u> shouted the old lady.</p>
2	<p>Underline the sentences which use indirect speech below.</p> <p><u>Mrs Shaw asked the children to line up.</u></p> <p><u>Ali told the team they had played well.</u></p> <p><u>Kurt asked, "How are you feeling today?"</u></p>
3	<p><u>True</u> or false? The sentences below are punctuated correctly.</p> <p>"It is my birthday today," said Arnold.</p> <p>Mia asked, "What time are we going?"</p> <p>The little boy shouted for help.</p>
4	<p>"It can't possibly be right," insisted Lucile. "I thought they were happy and would stay here forever. I can't believe they've gone," she sobbed.</p> <p>"Did they say where they were going?" asked Gregor quietly</p>
5	<p><b>Various answers, for example:</b></p> <p>"The weather will be lovely at the weekend," mentioned Clare.</p> <p>Lucas responded, "We should go to the beach while it's sunny."</p> <p>"I'd love to go," replied Clare.</p> <p>Lucas suggested, "We should invite Sara and Alex to join us."</p>
6	<p>Nick is correct because he has included one sentence with indirect speech: Miss Hill asked her what had happened. This sentence reports what Miss Hill said.</p>
7	<p>Tick for a correctly punctuated response, e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>She asked him, "Do you want a banana?"</u></li> </ul> <p>Also accept minor errors that preserve the basic meaning, e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>She asked him, "Would you like a banana?"</u></li> <li>• <u>She asked him, "Do you want bananas?"</u></li> </ul>
8	<p>One tick for changing to the first person and isolation of the spoken words, eg:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>It is my ambition to discover as much as possible about our solar system.</i></li> <li>• <i>It is my hope to uncover as much about the solar system as I can, said the astronomer.</i></li> </ul> <p>Award a second mark for correct punctuation of speech, using internal punctuation and inverted commas, eg:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The astronomer said, "It is my ambition to discover as much as possible about our solar system."</i></li> <li>• <i>"I want to learn all the secrets of the solar system. That is my goal."</i></li> </ul>