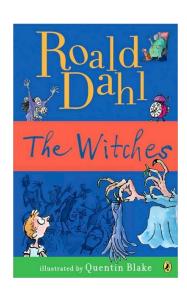
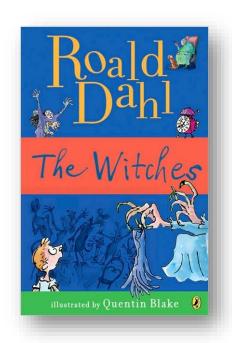
DIRECT SPEECH



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.

