

Varied Fluency

Step 2: Punctuating Direct Speech

National Curriculum Objectives:

English Year 4: (4G5.7) [Using and punctuating direct speech](#)

English Year 4: (4G5.7) [Use of inverted commas and other punctuation to indicate direct speech \[for example, a comma after the reporting clause; end punctuation within inverted commas: The conductor shouted, "Sit down!"\]](#)

Differentiation:

Developing Questions to support punctuating direct speech with missing punctuation including; speech marks, capital letter 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 letter 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 letter 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 pieces of direct speech can be featured in a question.

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

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Punctuating Direct Speech

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1a. Circle the missing or incorrect punctuation in this sentence:

The stepsisters said, here is an invitation to a ball?"



VF

1b. Circle the missing or incorrect punctuation in this sentence:

"Cinderella cried "Why can't I go to the ball?"



VF

2a. Tick the sentence that has been punctuated correctly.

One stepsister announced, "I will wear the red dress."

"Which red dress"? asked the other.



VF

2b. Tick the sentence that has been punctuated correctly.

The mice whispered, "we must help Cinderella,"

The fairy godmother said, "You will go to the ball."



VF

3a. Tick where capital letters should go.

cinderella asked, "what time is it?"



VF

3b. Tick where inverted commas should go.

I must be home by midnight, she said.



VF

4a. Punctuate these sentences.

the prince said I will marry the girl whose foot fits this slipper

the stepsister asked can I try the slipper on first



VF

4b. Punctuate these sentences.

will you marry me the prince asked

cinderella replied of course I will



VF

Punctuating Direct Speech

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5a. Circle the missing or incorrect punctuation in this sentence:

jack said “ where does this beanstalk go to?”



VF

5b. Circle the missing or incorrect punctuation in this sentence:

“Jack’s mother screeched, You’ve swapped our cow for BEANS.”



VF

6a. Tick the sentence that has been punctuated correctly.

Jack’s mother said “Will you take the cow to market?”

“Hurry back!” his mother shouted after him.



VF

6b. Tick the sentence that has been punctuated correctly.

The giant demanded, “Bring the hen!”

“Look mother, golden eggs,” Jack exclaimed!



VF

7a. Tick where the inverted commas should go.

A man said, Here are some magic beans for your cow.



VF

7b. Tick where a comma should go.

“The man told me the beans were magic beans” Jack explained to his mother



VF

8a. Punctuate these sentences.

jack said I will climb this beanstalk

the giant shouted can I smell the blood of an englishman



VF

8b. Punctuate these sentences.

where is my dinner the giant demanded

get in the oven the giants wife ordered jack



VF

Punctuating Direct Speech

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9a. Circle the missing or incorrect punctuation in this sentence:

“We’re so poor ” the woodcutter sighed
“so how will we feed the children?”



VF

9b. Circle the missing or incorrect punctuation in this sentence:

“Take the children into the wood, his wife replied, and leave them there!”



VF

10a. Tick the sentence that has been punctuated correctly.

“No wife,” said the woodcutter, “I can’t do that!”

“You’re a fool ” his wife muttered, “as there isn’t enough food for all or us?”



VF

10b. Tick the sentence that has been punctuated correctly.

“Oh Hansel,” whimpered Gretel, what shall we do?

“Don’t worry Gretel,” said Hansel, “because we will find our own way back.”



VF

11a. Tick where the commas should go

“Stay here ” said the father “and I promise
I will come back for you ”



VF

11b. Tick where inverted commas should go.

Look, said Hansel, we can follow this
trail of breadcrumbs.



VF

12a. Punctuate these sentences.

oh said hansel there is a house made of sweets

can we eat it asked gretel we can try replied hansel



VF

12b. Punctuate these sentences.

come in children the old woman said and warm yourselves

im frightened cried gretel me too replied hansel



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Developing

- 1a. Missing inverted commas, lowercase 'h' and question mark
- 2a. The first box should be ticked.
- 3a. The first and third boxes should be ticked.
- 4a. The prince said, "I will marry the girl whose foot fits this slipper."
The stepsister asked, "Can I try the slipper on first?"

Expected

- 5a. Lowercase 'j' and 'w', missing comma after 'said'
- 6a. The second box should be ticked.
- 7a. The second and third boxes should be ticked.
- 8a. Jack said, "I will climb this beanstalk."
The giant shouted, "Can I smell the blood of an Englishman?"

Greater Depth

- 9a. Missing comma after 'poor' and 'sighed' and missing inverted commas after 'children'
- 10a. The first box should be ticked.
- 11a. The first and second boxes should be ticked.
- 12a. "Oh," said Hansel, "there is a house made of sweets!"
"Can we eat it?" asked Gretel.
"We can try," replied Hansel.

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Developing

- 1b. Incorrect inverted commas before 'Cinderella', missing comma after 'cried' and missing inverted commas after 'ball'
- 2b. The second box should be ticked.
- 3b. The first and second boxes should be ticked.
- 4b. "Will you marry me?" the prince asked.
Cinderella replied, "Of course I will."

Expected

- 5b. Incorrect inverted commas before 'Jack's', missing inverted commas before 'You've' and incorrect full stop
- 6b. The first box should be ticked.
- 7b. The second box should be ticked.
- 8b. "Where is my dinner?" the giant demanded.
"Get in the oven!" the giant's wife ordered Jack.

Greater Depth

- 9b. Missing inverted commas after 'wood' and before 'and'
- 10b. The second box should be ticked.
- 11b. The first, second, third and fifth boxes should be ticked.
- 12b. "Come in children," the old woman said, "and warm yourselves."
"I'm frightened!" cried Gretel.
"Me too," replied Hansel.