

Varied Fluency

Step 3: Direct or Indirect 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 recognising direct speech and indirect speech. Direct speech is punctuated including a reporting clause (e.g. He said, "wait up!"). Indirect speech is past tense with a reporting verb and linking word (e.g. He told me that I had to wait up.)

Expected Questions to support recognising direct speech and indirect speech. Direct speech is punctuated but may not include the reporting clause (e.g. "Wait up!"). Indirect speech is past tense with a reporting verb where 'that' may be omitted (e.g. He told me I had to wait up.)

Greater Depth Questions to support recognising direct and indirect speech. Multiple pieces of direct or indirect speech used within a question. Direct speech is punctuated but may not include the reporting clause (e.g. "Wait up!"). Indirect speech is past or present tense with a reporting verb where 'that' may be omitted (e.g. He told me I had to wait up/He asks if I can wait up).

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

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Direct or Indirect Speech?

1a. Tick the sentence containing direct speech.

A. Evie said that she wanted her friend to come for tea.

B. Mum replied, "Yes of course."



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Direct or Indirect Speech?

1b. Tick the sentence containing indirect speech.

A. The teacher told us that it was playtime.

B. "You can put your books away," the teacher said.



VF

2a. True or false? The sentence below contains direct speech.

I said that I would help with the washing up.

Explain how you know.



VF

2b. True or false? The sentence below contains indirect speech.

I told Jack that I liked his new bike.

Explain how you know.



VF

3a. Circle any errors in the sentence below containing indirect speech.

I asked if "I could play out."



VF

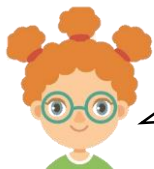
3b. Circle any errors in the sentence below containing direct speech.

Emily said, I need some new shoes.



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4a. Mia has tried to rewrite Millie's speech as indirect speech. Is she correct?



Milly

I have a new bike.

Milly told us that "she has a new bike."



VF

4b. Jacob has tried to rewrite Aisha's speech as direct speech. Is he correct?



Aisha

I like my new bike.

Aisha said "I like my new bike."



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Direct or Indirect Speech?

Direct or Indirect Speech?

5a. Tick the sentence containing direct speech.

A. "The bus is coming!"

B. Mum said we should catch the next bus.



VF

5b. Tick the sentence containing indirect speech.

A. "Can I stay up a bit longer?"

B. Mum told Ben it was time to go to bed.



VF

6a. True or false? The sentence below contains direct speech.

Mrs Brown told us to read our books.

Explain how you know.



VF

6b. True or false? The sentence below contains indirect speech.

Alice said that she could play out after tea.

Explain how you know.



VF

7a. Circle any errors in the sentence below containing indirect speech.

I told my mum "I would not be late" I said.



VF

7b. Circle any errors in the sentence below containing direct speech.

My friend said "let's go for a ride on our bikes."



VF

8a. Chloe has tried to rewrite Dominic's speech as indirect speech. Is she correct?



Dominic

I missed my bus.

Dominic explained that I missed my bus.



VF

8b. Alfie has tried to rewrite Grace's speech as direct speech. Is he correct?



Grace

I'm sorry I'm late.

Grace apologises because she is late.



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Direct or Indirect Speech?

Direct or Indirect Speech?

9a. Tick the box to show which type of speech has been underlined.

A. Mum said, "I hope you are taking this seriously!" I reassured her I had listened to her advice. D I

B. "It is very hot today, so I must put on sun cream." I also tell myself that I must not forget to pack my sun hat and sunglasses.

 D – direct I – indirect VF

9b. Tick the box to show which type of speech has been underlined.

A. Mum asks me to go into town and tells me to buy some milk. "I will - after this programme has finished!" I D

B. "Will you go to town," Mum asks, "and get me some milk, please?" I said I would, considering how ill she was.

 I – indirect D – direct VF

10a. True or false? The text below contains direct speech only.

I promised to come home early and that I would do my homework straightaway. "If you don't, we won't have time to go to the cinema, so the choice is yours", replied Mum. "Understood, mum!" I said in a firm voice.

 VF


10b. True or false? The text below contains more indirect speech.

Mum reminded me that it was getting late. Then, she told me to tidy and get ready for bed. "Okay mum - ten minutes more, please!" I begged. Mum told me to stop playing my game now as I had school in the morning.

 VF

11a. Circle any errors in the text below.

Olivia asks me if I did like pizza, and which flavour I liked the most. I reply with a smile, "Pepperoni, of course - it's even better when its topped with plenty of mushrooms" olivia chuckles and offers to bye one at our next sleepover.

 VF

11b. Circle any errors in the text below.

"Rise and shine!" called Dad. I sighed but I'm still tired." Dad reminds me that I is going abroad for work yesterday. He says goodbye before he had to leave. "I'm going to miss you so much Dad!" I cried. He told me I had to be on my best behaviour.

 VF

12a. Alice has rewritten the first speech bubble as indirect speech and the second speech bubble as direct speech.

Emily

Do you want to go swimming?

Amy

Yes I'd love to go swimming.

Emily asks Amy if she wants to go swimming. Amy says, "Yes, I'd love to go swimming."

Is she correct?

 VF

12b. Joe has rewritten the first speech bubble as direct speech and the second speech bubble as indirect speech.

George

Can you skate?

Noah

Not very well, to be honest.

"Can you skate?" George exclaimed loudly. Noah explained that he can skate very well.

Is he correct?

 VF

Varied Fluency Direct or Indirect Speech?

Developing

- 1a. B
2a. False. It is reporting what was said, it uses the past tense verb 'said' and no inverted commas have been used.
3a. Inverted commas should be circled.
4a. Mia is incorrect as there should be no inverted commas. The correct answer is: Milly told us that she has a new bike.

Expected

- 5a. A
6a. False. It is reporting what was said, it uses the past tense verb 'told' and no inverted commas have been used.
7a. Inverted commas and 'I said' should be circled.
8a. Chloe is incorrect as the pronouns 'I' and 'my' should be changed to 'he' and 'his'. The correct answer is: Dominic explained that he missed his bus.

Greater Depth

- 9a. A – indirect; B – direct
10a. False, because the first sentence contains indirect speech.
11a. Olivia asks me if (do) I like pizza, and which flavour I liked (the) most. I reply with a smile, "Pepperoni, of course - it's even better when (its) topped with plenty of mushrooms" (Olivia) chuckles and offers to (bye) one at our next sleepover.
12a. Alice is correct.

Varied Fluency Direct or Indirect Speech?

Developing

- 1b. A
2b. True. The speech has been reported.
3b. Missing inverted commas should be circled.
4b. Jacob is incorrect as there is a comma missing after 'Aisha said'. The correct answer is: Aisha said, "I like my new bike."

Expected

- 5b. B
6b. True. The speech has been reported.
7b. The lack of a comma, lowercase l and missing inverted commas should be circled.
8b. Alfie is incorrect as he has used indirect speech. The correct answer is: "I'm sorry I'm late," Grace apologised.

Greater Depth

- 9b. A – indirect; B – indirect
10b. True
11b. "Rise and shine!" called Dad. I sighed (but) I'm still tired." Dad reminds me that (I) s going abroad for work (yesterday). He says goodbye before he (had) to leave. "I'm going to miss you so much (Dad)!" I cried. He told me I had to be on my best behaviour.
12b. Joe is incorrect, as 'exclaimed' is not an appropriate verb to use with a question and 'can' should be changed to 'can't to keep the meaning the same.