

Quotation marks

Quotation marks are sometimes called speech marks or inverted commas.

They are used to indicate the beginning and end of direct speech.



"Let's build a sandcastle," Bob asked his sister.

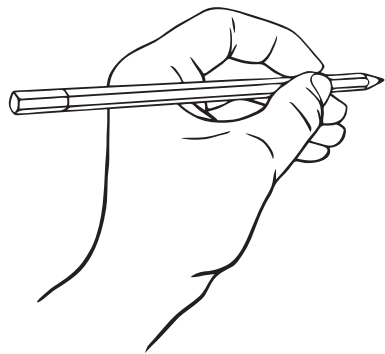


Can you think of other examples of direct speech?

Quotation marks

The speech (quotation) marks are placed directly before the first word spoken and directly after the last word spoken, not at the end of the sentence.

“I love my dog,” said Joanne.



Write some more
examples of speech.



Quotation marks

* Start a new line when someone new speaks.

"I like playing football," said Luke.

"I agree," replied Sue.

"I wish we could play every day," added Anthony.

* The first word within the speech marks should have a capital letter.

John slumped in the chair and said, "I've had it!"



Quotation marks

A comma, question mark or exclamation mark should be placed before the end inverted commas.

"I'm lost," Sam sobbed.

"Get out!" screamed Toby.

"What time will the bus arrive?" Tom enquired.



Quotation marks

A comma should be placed before the opening quotation mark to separate the quote from the rest of the sentence if the speaker's identity is placed before the quote.

Kim said, "It is very cold today."



Think of some more examples where the speaker is identified before the quote.

Quotation marks

When the quote comes first, place a comma before the end quotation mark to separate the quote from the rest of the sentence.

"I'm glad to meet you," Sharon said.



Write some more quotations
with correct punctuation.

Quotation marks

With continued speech or split quotation, the first part has a capital letter and ends with a comma.

The start of the second part of the quotation has a lower case letter.

Both parts of the quotation are enclosed with speech marks.



"I know you want to go out to play," said my mother, "but you still have to mop the floor."