

# How can I create convincing characters using direct speech?



**Direct speech** is a sentence in which **the exact words spoken are reproduced in speech marks.**

## **Rules:**

- Speech is opened with speech marks
- Each new character's speech starts on a new line.
- Each line of speech starts with a capital.
- When the line of speech ends use a comma, exclamation mark or question mark before closing the speech marks.
- A full stop is used after the speech tags (said Claire. replied Gethyn. shouted Mr Thomas.)
- If the direct speech in the sentence is broken up by information about who is speaking, add in a comma or question mark or exclamation mark to end the first piece of speech and a full stop or another comma before the second piece (before the speech marks), for example: "It's lovely," I sighed, "but I can't afford it right now."

Using the following stimulus and scaffolding, write an extract for the task:

**Describe an occasion something exciting happened.**



## Scaffolding task



Who is the person/people speaking?

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What are they feeling in this extract from your narrative?

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What speech tags could you include?

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What verb choices would suit this scenario?

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Write your response in the box below: