

Inverted Commas

Part A

Inverted commas go around the words that are spoken when you are writing direct speech.

E.g. "I *hate* feathers," said Bee.

There are some important rules for using inverted commas when writing direct speech.

Beginning and End

Keep your inverted commas at the beginning and end of words being spoken.

New Speaker, New Line

Start a new line whenever someone new speaks.

Capital Letter

Begin what is spoken with a capital letter.

Commas

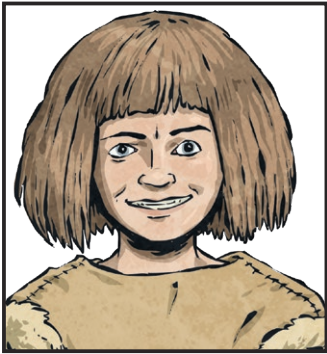
Remember to use commas to introduce the quotation and at the end of direct speech if there is no other relevant punctuation there.

Place inverted commas in the correct place in the following sentences.

1. It's covered in dog slime! yelled Bee.
2. This job is so boring, groaned Bee.
3. When will I ever get to hunt like the others? asked Bee.
4. Bee sighed, I've had enough of this now.
5. Bee shouted, Give it to me, Dog!
6. Dad said, As you get older, you will learn new skills.
7. I don't want to wait until I'm older, complained Bee. I want to do fun stuff now.

8. Dad sang loudly, Rubbing in the gloopy brain is fun to do.
9. Duck skin makes lovely, soft leather, explained Dad. Your underpants are made of duck skin.
10. Have you still got that feather in your teeth, Dog? asked Bee. Come here and I will help you to get it out.

Write a sentence using inverted commas for direct speech to report what is being said here.



That brain goo is disgusting!

E.g. "That brain goo is disgusting!" said Bee.

It's such a beautiful day!



11. _____

12. Make up your own sentence where Bee says something and write it here.

Part B

Inverted commas go around the words that are spoken when you are writing direct speech.

E.g. "I *hate* feathers," said Bee.

There are some important rules for using inverted commas when writing direct speech.

Beginning and End

Keep your inverted commas at the beginning and end of words being spoken.

New Speaker, New Line

Start a new line whenever someone new speaks.

Capital Letter

Begin what is spoken with a capital letter.

Commas

Remember to use commas to introduce the quotation and at the end of direct speech if there is no other relevant punctuation there.

Some of the punctuation is missing in the following sentences, which are based upon 'How to Skin a Bear'. Mark in the missing speech punctuation. Where you think a new line should start, mark a slanted vertical line (/). Write capital letters over the top of ones given in lower case.

E.g. "I hate moving from place to place," sighed Bee. "I get so tired."

E.g. Bee moaned, "Feathers are so grim."

1. I'm tired and I'm grumpy sighed Bee.
2. Keep going said Dad. We will be there soon.
3. We have been travelling for five suns now complained Bee. I'm sick of it.

4. My feet are sore and my back is full of aches she moaned.
5. You really must stop complaining said Dad. This is the life we lead.
6. Travelling is especially boring when you are the youngest in the tribe explained Bee. Oh, you are a grumbler replied Dad.
7. Bee asked why do we have to carry everything? It's so heavy.
8. Dad explained we need to get to the Rock of the Long Sun. We will be there soon enough.
9. One day I will hunt like the others declared Bee resolutely.
10. At least we are warm in the summer sun said Dad. We should be thankful for all we have. Ugh grunted Bee in reply, not feeling very thankful as she trudged along.

★ ★
★ Challenge Task ★

Imagine that Dog can talk! Write down a conversation between Bee and Dog, using all the rules for writing direct speech using inverted commas.

Inverted Commas Answers

Part A

1. "It's covered in dog slime!" yelled Bee.
2. "This job is so boring," groaned Bee.
3. "When will I ever get to hunt like the others?" asked Bee.
4. Bee sighed, "I've had enough of this now."
5. Bee shouted, "Give it to me, Dog!"
6. Dad said, "As you get older, you will learn new skills."
7. "I don't want to wait until I'm older," complained Bee. "I want to do fun stuff now."
8. Dad sang loudly, "Rubbing in the gloopy brain is fun to do."
9. "Duck skin makes lovely, soft leather," explained Dad. "Your underpants are made of duck skin."
10. "Have you still got that feather in your teeth, Dog?" asked Bee. "Come here and I will help you to get it out."
11. Example answer: *"It's such a beautiful day!" declared Dad.*
12. Example answer: *"I want to show people what I can do," said Bee.*

Part B

1. "I'm tired and I'm grumpy," sighed Bee.
2. "Keep going," said Dad. "We will be there soon."
3. "We have been travelling for five suns now," complained Bee. "I'm sick of it."
4. "My feet are sore and my back is full of aches," she moaned.
5. "You really must stop complaining," said Dad. "This is the life we lead."
6. "Travelling is especially boring when you are the youngest in the tribe," explained Bee. / "Oh, you are a grumbler!" replied Dad.
7. Bee asked, "Why do we have to carry everything? It's so heavy."
8. Dad explained, "We need to get to the Rock of the Long Sun. We will be there soon enough."
9. "One day I will hunt like the others!" declared Bee resolutely.
10. "At least we are warm in the summer sun," said Dad. "We should be thankful for all we have." / "Ugh," grunted Bee in reply, not feeling very thankful as she trudged along.

★ Challenge Task ★

Imagine that Dog can talk! Write down a conversation between Bee and Dog, using all the rules for writing direct speech using inverted commas.

Example answer:

“I really wish you wouldn’t slobber dog slime everywhere,” Bee said to Dog.

“I can’t help it,” replied Dog. “I’m a dog and that is what dogs do!”

“I guess you are right,” said Bee. “I have to touch that duck, though, after you have licked it. It is disgusting.”

“I can eat the duck if you like, Bee?” suggested Dog, hopefully.

“Well I wouldn’t have to pluck the duck’s feathers then, I suppose!” laughed Bee.