



To: Parents and teachers of Grade 4 - 6 learners

Topic: Direct Speech

**Message Objectives:** Learners will be able to define the direct speech.

Learners will be able to use inverted commas correctly.

**Message:** Direct speech is a sentence where the exact words that are spoken are written in **inverted commas “ ”**.

**How should direct speech be punctuated?**

- When you are writing, **inverted commas** go before and after any words that a character says.
- Begin the sentence with opening inverted commas.
- Write only the words that are being said.
- Any punctuation goes **inside** the inverted commas.
- Close with inverted commas.
- If another character replies, do the following:
  - use **another set** of inverted commas
  - put the new person speaking on a **new line** e.g.

*“I’m hungry,” said the boy.*

*“Make yourself a sandwich,” said his mum.*

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Reference:

[Intermediate Phase ATPs for 2021 \(education.gov.za\)](http://education.gov.za)  
[PSRIP IP — National Education Collaboration Trust \(nect.org.za\)](http://nect.org.za)  
[Year 4 Language Conventions Speech Marks Lesson \(twinkl.co.za\)](http://twinkl.co.za)