LO: TO PUNCTUATE SPEECH APPROPRIATELY
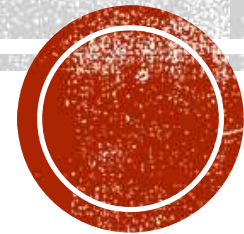
25/6/20

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

- When you finally write your short stories, you will need to include some dialogue between your characters. It is important that you know how to punctuate your speech properly, so that the reader knows which parts of your writing are your character speaking and which parts are you telling the story.

LET'S RECAP HOW TO DO THIS...

- https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/clips/zvftsbk

INVERTED COMMAS

There are two places where inverted commas are needed when writing direct speech:

"What's the matter, Dina?" said Sid.

Inverted Commas

Inverted Commas

You need to **open** your inverted commas with a " (66) before the first word which is being spoken.

You need to **close** your inverted commas with a " (99) after the last word **which is being spoken**.

Imagine that inverted commas are like hands;
They hold within them **only** the words which are being spoken.

"What's the matter, Dina**?"** **said Sid.**

PUNCTUATION

There are two places where other forms of punctuation are needed when writing direct speech:

"What's the matter, Dina?" said Sid.

You need to end the speaking with:
• a comma
• a question mark, if it is a question.
• an exclamation mark, if it is an exclamation.

You will need to finish your sentence with a full stop after the reporting clause.

Examples of other punctuation in direct speech are:
"How exciting it is!" exclaimed Sarah.
"I don't know what to do," said Sayeed.

REPORTING CLAUSES

After the speech itself, a reporting clause gives a little bit of information about **who is speaking** and **how it was said**.

"What's the matter, Dina?" **said Sid**.

Reporting Clauses

In this case, Sid is speaking.

If Sid said it in a different way, you could change 'said' to...

"What's the matter, Dina?" **asked Sid**.

"What's the matter, Dina?" **whispered Sid**.

"What's the matter, Dina?" **uttered Sid**.
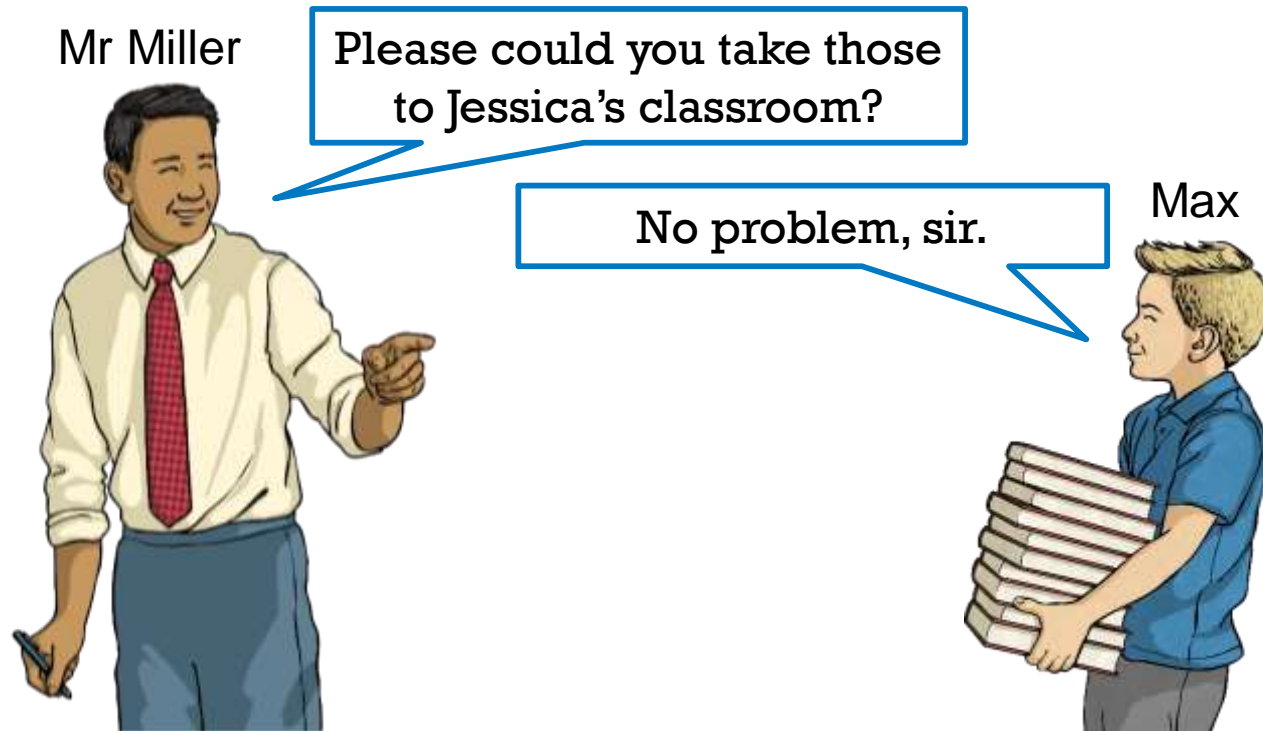
"What's the matter, Dina?" **shouted Sid**.

TASK...

IT'S YOUR TURN…

Here is a conversation between Mr. Miller and Max. Write the direct speech using inverted commas and the correct punctuation.

Where more than one person is talking, remember to start new line for each new speaker.

Mr Miller

Please could you take those to Jessica's classroom?

No problem, sir.

Max

IT'S YOUR TURN…

Here is a conversation between three friends. Write the direct speech on a whiteboard using inverted commas and the correct punctuation.
Remember: new speaker, new line!

What are your plans for tonight?

I don't really have any.

Do you fancy going out for a meal?

Lisa

Janine

Alex

EXAMPLE ANSWERS

How did you do? Did you remember the **inverted commas**, **punctuation** and **reporting clause**?

"What are your plans for tonight?" asked Lisa.
"I don't really have any," replied Janine.
"Do you fancy going out for a meal?" said Alex.

"Please could you take those to Jessica's classroom?" asked Mr Miller.
"No problem, sir," replied Max.

It does not matter if you used said, asked, exclaimed or any other reporting verb – just don't forget to mix it up a bit in your work. The same reporting verb too many times can get boring.

CORRECTLY PUNCTUATE THE SPEECH

Below are all examples of incorrectly punctuated speech.
Tell your partner why they are incorrect and correct them on
your whiteboard.

You need to get off the bus here" said the driver.

Stop annoying me! shouted Sophie.

"Who goes there" grumbled the troll.

"What a beautiful day it is! rejoiced Sheila."

"That's all the money I have, explained Frank.

CORRECTLY PUNCTUATE THE SPEECH

Did you manage to correct these sentences?

"You need to get off the bus here," said the driver.

"Stop annoying me!" shouted Sophie.

"Who goes there?" grumbled the troll.

"What a beautiful day it is!" rejoiced Sheila.

"That's all the money I have," explained Frank.

EXTENSION . . .

FROGGY FREEZE FRAME

Write what each frog is saying using the correct speech punctuation...