

# Inverted commas 1: Knowing when to use them

See the handout on **Inverted commas** if you need help to complete these exercises.

## Recognizing speech

Read the sentences. In each one, circle the inverted commas, or speech marks, which show when someone is speaking. Look at the position of the other punctuation marks in each case.

'I went to see that film yesterday,' said Beth.

Pete added, 'The meeting about the play is next week.'

'Don't forget to learn your spellings,' said Mrs Cryer.

'Look out!' cried the man.

'Be careful,' whispered Rob, 'or we'll wake the giant.'

'I am ready,' she said. 'We must go to the hospital now.'

## Punctuating speech

Add punctuation to the speech in the following sentences.

'I need to go to the library today \_\_\_' said Sandra.

'The slipper is too small for Cinderella \_\_\_' chorused the ugly sisters.

'Watch out \_\_\_' cried Brian.

Finally, dad said \_\_\_ 'We're nearly there now \_\_\_'

'Will you carry this for me, please \_\_\_' the old lady asked.

## Adding inverted commas

Add inverted commas to the sentences below.

Please go and see Mrs Jackson now, said the head teacher.

Audrey said brightly, We'll all be home soon.

Can you lend me fifty pence until tomorrow? he asked.

Well, bless me, said old Mr Trout, the gardener.

Goal! they shouted.

# Inverted commas 2: Recognizing direct speech

See the handout on **Inverted commas** if you need help to complete this exercise.

## Who said what?

Read the following passage. Then highlight all the speech in it, using a different colour for each of the people speaking. Fill in the chart below.

‘Hello Adam,’ called Mr Butcher, peering over his front gate just in time to see the tall boy walking past.

Adam smiled. ‘Hi, Mr Butcher. How are you?’

‘Not so good, Adam. It’s hard work gardening with my bad knees,’ the old man added sadly.

‘Would you like some help?’ asked Adam.

‘Well, that would be grand,’ said Mr Butcher gratefully.

‘Lucy!’ yelled Adam, as his sister ran out of the house next door.

‘Hi!’ Lucy shouted back. ‘What’s happening?’

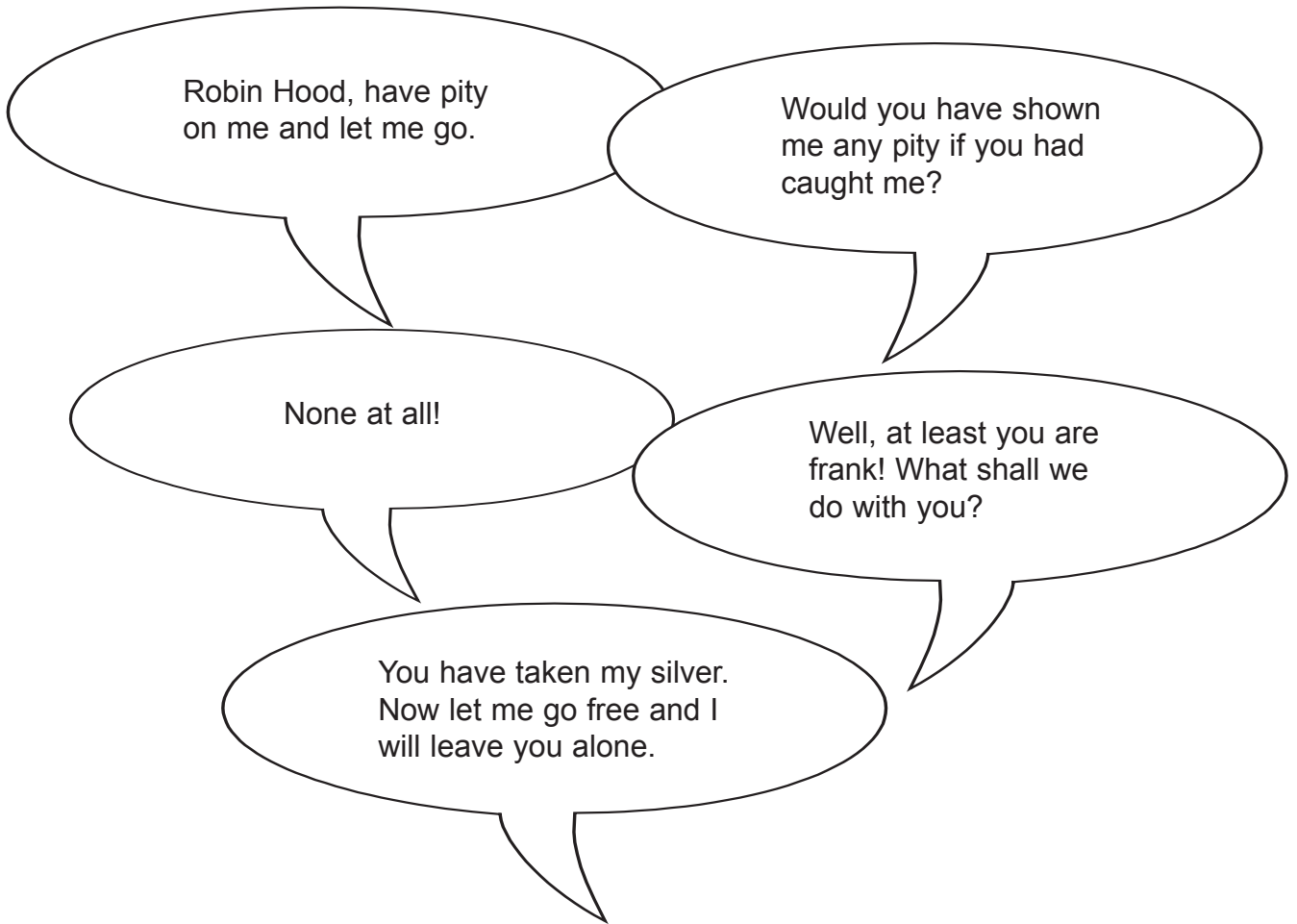
Who spoke?	What did they say?	How did they say it?
Mr Butcher	Hello Adam	called out

# Inverted commas 3: Writing direct speech

See the handout on **Inverted commas** if you need help to complete this exercise.

## Bubble burst

Read the conversation between the Sheriff of Nottingham and Robin Hood. Then write it out as direct speech, with inverted commas and the correct punctuation.



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# Inverted commas 5: Direct and reported speech

See the handout on **Inverted commas** if you need help to complete this exercise.

## Switching over

The following sentences are written in direct speech. Rewrite them as reported speech.

1. She said, 'I will meet him at six o'clock.'

*She said she would meet him at six o'clock.*

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2. 'I like strawberry milkshakes best,' said Lynn.
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3. The man shouted at the cat, 'Get off my garden!'
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4. He asked, 'Could I have a drink please?'
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5. 'That's not right!' she exclaimed.
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The following sentences are written in reported speech. Rewrite them as direct speech.

1. The boy muttered that it was his fault.

*'It was my fault,' the boy muttered.*

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2. Sheila asked Tom what his brother's name was.
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3. Mrs Smith shouted at the teenagers that they mustn't climb on the wall.
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4. Mum told us to hurry up and tidy our rooms before supper.
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5. She asked whether we'd had enough to eat.
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