

inverted commas

Inverted commas are also called **speech marks** and **quotation marks**. They look like this “ ” or this “ ”. They are used in writing to show when someone is talking.

Inverted commas are put at the beginning and the end of the actual words someone speaks.

‘I’ve been bitten by a snake,’ said Joe.

If you do not need to say who has spoken the words, you can end the words with a full stop, a question mark or an exclamation mark. The inverted commas at the end go after the full stop, question mark or exclamation mark.

‘Won’t it get dark soon?’

If you are going to say who has spoken the words, end the spoken words with a comma (or a question mark or an exclamation mark if it was a question or exclamation). The inverted commas go after this.

‘Oh, no! I’ve lost my door keys,’ said Fred.

‘What are we going to do?’ Ann asked.

‘Don’t worry, I’ve found them!’ Fred exclaimed.