

# Inverted Commas

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Inverted commas are also known as speech marks.

Use the acronym SCAPS to help you remember how to punctuate speech correctly.

S = speech marks

C = capital letter

A = actual words spoken

P = punctuation

S = speech marks

## 1. Insert the missing inverted commas in the sentences below.

- a) Remember your belongings please, said the tour guide.
- b) The historian explained, Henry VIII had six wives.
- c) What would you like to order? asked the waitress.
- d) The soldier shouted his order, Run to your bases!



## 2. Underline the speech or actual words spoken in these sentences.

- a) “Here is your geography homework,” said the teacher, “Please complete it by tomorrow morning!”
- b) “Why haven’t you tidied your bedroom?” asked Charlie’s dad, “You know your friends are arriving soon.”
- c) “It is important to let the meat rest after cooking it,” explained the chef to his cooking class.



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3. Identify the mistakes in the punctuation and rewrite the sentence correctly below.

a) How much flour do I need to make this cake"? asked Julie?

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b) "we need to bring a packed lunch and a change of clothes, don't we" asked James.

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4. Tick the box to show whether speech punctuation has been used correctly or incorrectly.

correct

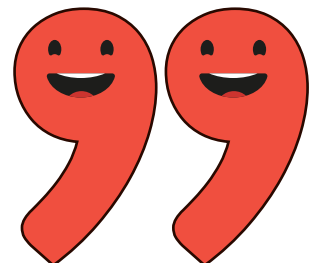
incorrect

"Please can I sit next to Alistair today?" asked Peter ☐ ☐

"Please can I sit next to Alistair today" asked Peter? ☐ ☐

"Please can I sit next to Alistair today?" asked Peter. ☐ ☐

"Please can I sit next to Alistair today?" asked Peter? ☐ ☐



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## 5. Explain why this sentence is incorrect.

“We are going for a walk today.” declared mum.

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## 6. Rewrite this passage from a play script as direct speech.

Mrs Portly: How much do I need to pay to have my car fixed?

Mark the mechanic: It shouldn't be too much. Approximately £76.

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