Writing preparation

1 Do you remember direct speech? Look at this sentence and the punctuation.

speech marks → "Those soldiers look very fierce," ← speech marks said Robert.

a comma ↑ a full stop

2 Remember, the reporting words can come at the beginning of the sentence:

Grandad said, "This is a time-travel phone."



They can come at the end of the sentence:

"Where are we going?" asked Robert.

They can come in the middle of the sentence:

"Let's go somewhere exciting," said Lucy, "but it must be safe, too."

3 Read.

We often use *said* and *asked* as reporting words.

We can use other words that show how someone spoke:

shout scream whisper exclaim explain

Now match the words to the definitions. Check in your Dictionary if necessary.

1 to speak in a loud voice _____

2 to speak in a quiet voice _____

3 to give information to help someone understand _____

4 to speak loudly because of feeling angry or afraid _____

5 to speak loudly and in surprise _____

4 Choose words from exercise 3 to complete the sentences. Add the punctuation.

1 Look at the emperor's throne! _____ Lucy.

2 Chinese emperors always had beautiful gold thrones Grandad _____.

3 The emperor looks very angry _____ Robert quietly.

4 A soldier _____ Stop whispering.

5 Suddenly something small and grey ran across the floor.
It's a mouse _____ a lady and jumped on a chair.

LIVEWORKSHEETS