

Writing preparation

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

speech marks
"Those soldiers look very fierce," said Robert.
a comma
speech marks
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.