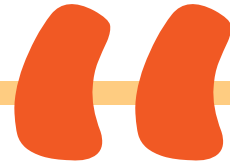


Inverted Commas

Useful Tips



- Inverted commas are also known as speech marks.
- Inverted commas are always used in pairs.
- Inverted commas surround direct speech.
- All non-spoken words belong outside the inverted commas.
- Only punctuation that is part of the direct speech should go inside the inverted commas.
- If the end of the direct speech falls at the end of the sentence, only one punctuation mark is needed.
- The break between speech and non-spoken words is normally signalled by a comma.
- Put each different speaker on a new line.

The reporting clause can be placed before or after the direct speech.

“Wow, this is like heaven!” exclaimed Mrs Bloom.
Mrs Bloom exclaimed, “Wow, this is like heaven!”



The reporting clause can be placed before or after the direct speech.

When direct speech is split by the speech verb (e.g. said, shouted), a comma is used inside the speech marks at the end of the first part and also before the speech marks at the beginning of the second part.

“Wow,” exclaimed Mrs Bloom, “this is like heaven!”



First comma inside the speech marks.



Second comma before the speech marks and after the speech verb.



Lowercase letter.