

A note to parents: Direct speech is punctuated with inverted commas which are sometimes called speech marks or quotation marks. They are placed around direct speech to show the reader what a person says. Inverted commas can be either: single ‘ ’ or double “ ”.

“What’s for lunch?” asked Sally.

The inverted commas are placed around the speech (including the punctuation) and are usually followed – or preceded by – a reporting clause. This is the part of the sentence that tells the reader who is speaking, such as **‘asked Sally’**.

Said is Dead

Using 'Said' Synonyms in Direct Speech

Use the 'said is dead' gravestone on the following page to help you improve the following sentences. The first has been done for you.

1. "What a terrible day!" said Michael.

"What a terrible day!" exclaimed Michael.

2. "Can we go to Disney World?" the children excitedly said.

3. The teacher said, "Use your best handwriting."

4. The instructor said, "First place your harness over your shoulder like this."

5. "I wonder what's on at the cinema?" Lucy said.

6. "GET OUT!" said a ghostly voice.

7. After being woken up, Jordan stretched and said, "I'm... I'm... still tired!"

8. "A tiger!" said the little girl in shock whilst at the zoo.

Challenge: Well done for replacing said with a said synonym in each sentence. Now write two of your own speech sentences using the 'said is dead' sheet.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

RIP

'said' is dead

complained

exclaimed

called

screamed

squealed

laughed

spoke

observed

answered

hollered

asked

thought

howled

yelled

expressed

cried

told

instructed

wailed

sighed

peeped

grinned

shouted

squawked

whispered

replied