

Tuesday

Activity: Punctuating direct speech

Remember:

In **direct speech**, the spoken words are sometimes split up, with 'said X' in the middle of them. If someone says two complete sentences, you put a **full stop** between the sentences. For example:

"It sounds like rats," said Dylan. "There are probably hundreds of them down there."

If someone says one sentence, you put a **comma** after 'said X' to show the sentence continues. For example:

"I heard it before," said Maya, "but this time it's louder."

Try it – Read the direct speech below. Decide if there is one spoken sentence or two. Then copy out the sentences adding the missing punctuation.

- 1) Take care of yourself she shouted those roads can be dangerous
- 2) We must find the wise men said the chief and ask them what to do
- 3) You stay here said Arjun while we go inside
- 4) It's not my fault Natalie said quickly I was only trying to help
- 5) You should hurry said the ticket inspector because the train is leaving in a few minutes

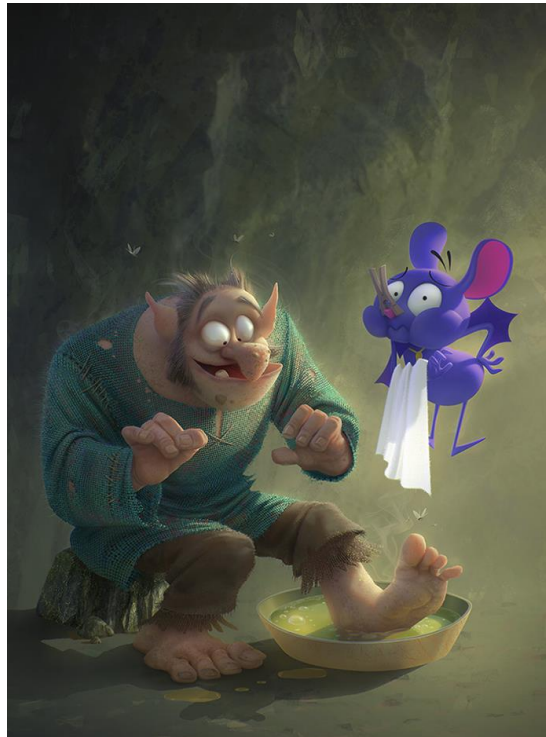
Now, write each sentence spoken by a character and add the punctuation.

I'm having a party announced Kayla and _____
I've looked everywhere moaned Loue but _____
When it stops raining said Sarah _____

We are going to the cinema explained Lucy so _____
We should stay here insisted Nisha or _____

Extension:

Looking at the picture below, write a dialogue between the two characters. Remember: a new line (and that line indented like a new paragraph) for each character's speech.



Today's answers below:

- 1) "Take care of yourself," she shouted. "Those roads can be dangerous!"
- 2) "We must find the wise men," said the chief, "and ask them what to do."
- 3) "You stay here," said Arjun, "while we go inside."
- 4) "It's not my fault," Natalie said quickly. "I was only trying to help."
- 5) "You should hurry," said the ticket inspector, "because the train is leaving in a few minutes."

(Your answers will vary)

"I'm having a party," announced Kayla, "and I want you all to come."

"I've looked everywhere," moaned Loue, "but I still can't find my book."

"When it stops raining," said Sarah, "we will go for a run."

"We are going to the cinema," explained Lucy, "so I have to hurry home."

"We should stay here," insisted Nisha, "or Dad will never find us in the crowd."