



**DIRECT  
AND  
INDIRECT  
SPEECH**

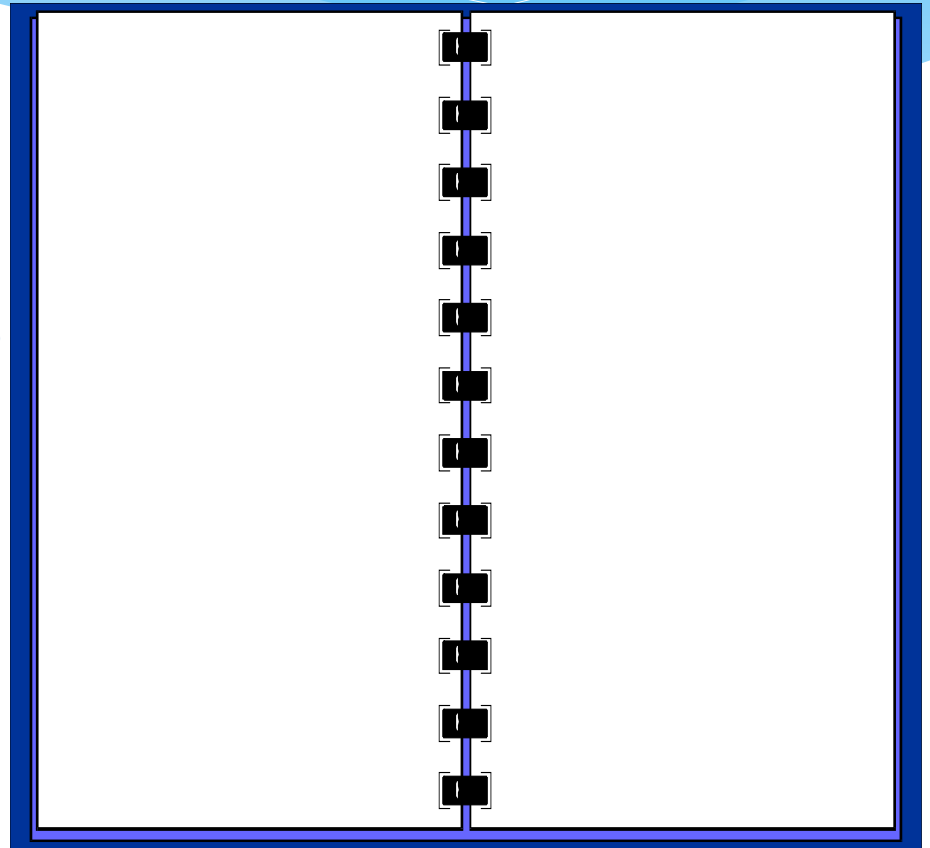
# REPORTING SPEECH

There are two ways of reporting what somebody says;

- \* direct speech
- \* indirect (or reported) speech.

# DIRECT SPEECH

In direct speech we use the speaker's own words.



# INDIRECT SPEECH

In indirect speech (sometimes called reported speech) we do not use the exact words of the speaker.

Instead we report what was said.

We sometimes need to change pronouns and verb tenses. We don't use speech marks.



“I am going home.”

Helen said she was going home.

# PUNCTUATING DIRECT SPEECH.

When using direct speech in your writing you need to use the correct punctuation.

- \* The exact words spoken must be enclosed in speech marks.
- \* The first word of the speech must begin with a capital letter.
- \* The words in the speech marks must be separated from the rest of the sentence by a comma.
- \* You must use a new line when a new speaker begins to speak.

# ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES OF EACH TYPE OF SPEECH.

- \* Direct speech can show what a character is like.
- \* Long speeches can be boring.
- \* Too many speakers can confuse the reader.
- \* Direct speech can add variety to writing.
- \* Indirect speech can be summarised briefly so that it does not slow down the pace of the action.
- \* It can show a contrast between what a character is saying and what he or she is thinking.