

A direct quotation has specific rules of punctuation and capitalization.

- A **quotation** is the exact words a person says or thinks.

**A quotation:**

*“Jerome plays forward on the soccer team,” said Carlos.*

**Not a quotation:**

*Carlos said that Jerome plays forward on the soccer team.*

- **Quotation marks** are placed before and after a speaker’s exact words.

*The magician explained, “I will pull a rabbit out of this hat.”*

*“That was an exciting trick!” exclaimed Margaret.*

- Capitalize the first word of each sentence in a quotation.

*Araceli stated, “**S**ome of these crayons are broken.”*

*“**A**re there enough black crayons?” questioned Terrance.*

*“**E**ach of us needs one.”*

- We usually use a comma to separate the quotation from the rest of the sentence.

*“I went to the lake last Saturday,” stated Monica.*

*Monica stated, “I went to the lake last Saturday.”*

## Quotation Marks

# Use Quotation Marks

**Rule  
22**

Add quotation marks to these sentences. Underline the speaker.

1. Please hand me that book, said Ms. Quinn.
2. On the way home from school, Mark asked, Can you spend the weekend at my house?
3. Alice, asked Mr. Washington, what is the answer to the last question?
4. I won't eat liver and brussels sprouts for dinner! shouted Jessie. I want pizza!
5. How long is this race going to last? wondered Otis.
6. Carlos exclaimed, Look at that huge pumpkin!
7. If we work hard, replied Judy, we will earn an excellent grade.
8. Sally, when is your birthday? asked Mrs. Taylor.
9. That was the most exciting book I have ever read! exclaimed Jody.
10. Why are you late? complained Roberto. We are going to miss the bus.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

# What Did They Say?

**A** Rewrite each sentence, adding quotation marks around each person's exact words. Use capital letters and other punctuation marks where they are needed.

1. lee said i'll get us something to drink

\_\_\_\_\_

2. do you have a pet cat asked marcus

\_\_\_\_\_

3. shawna shouted keep away from that broken glass

\_\_\_\_\_

4. why do i have to do my homework now complained susanne

\_\_\_\_\_

5. kim said i like to play soccer with my friends

\_\_\_\_\_

6. michael asked how soon will dinner be ready

\_\_\_\_\_

7. please tell me the answer to the riddle begged jose

\_\_\_\_\_

8. chris thought i hope they choose me to be on their team

\_\_\_\_\_

**B** On a sheet of lined paper, write a short conversation between Max and his teacher, Ms. Bennet, about tonight's homework.

# Quotation or Not?

Some of the following sentences contain direct quotes (the exact words of the speaker). Some of them do not. Add capital letters and quotation marks only where necessary. Some sentences will require no changes.

1. Mrs. Mickey explained that we would be painting in art class today.
2. She said we would need to wear paint smocks.
3. She told us you will not get your clothes messy if you wear a smock.
4. Mary responded that's good, because I'm wearing a new dress.
5. Kevin said he loves to paint.
6. Nancy echoed I love to paint and draw.
7. Tammy feared she was not a very good artist.
8. Mrs. Mickey reminded her you don't have to be the world's best artist; just enjoy yourself.
9. Lisa said she was glad to hear that comment because she wasn't much of a painter, either.
10. When the class ended, Lisa and Tammy both told Mrs. Mickey that they had a good time painting.