

WALT apply our knowledge of direct speech to move a story forward

What is direct speech?

Let's recap what we learnt in SPaG.

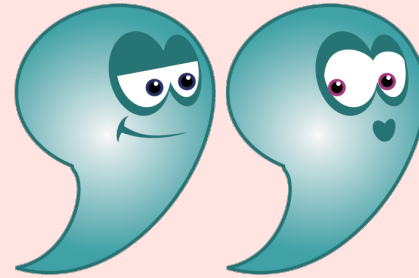


<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/topics/zr6bxyc/articles/zhqh92p>

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What is our success criteria for direct speech?

1. Each character starts a new line when speaking
2. Speech is opened with speech marks
3. Each line starts with a capital
4. Line of speech ends with a comma
5. Exclamation mark or question mark
6. A reporting clause at the end
7. A full stop after the reporting clause.



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~~SAID~~

What other words could we use instead of said?

In a happy way

- Laughed
- Rejoiced
- Giggled
- Joked
- Sang out

In an angry way

- Raged
- Seethed
- Retorted
- Thundered
- Blurted
- Fumed

In a sad way

- Cried
- Agonised
- Bawled
- Blubbered
- Lamented
- Sobbed
- Groaned
- Wept
- Mourned

In a bossy way

- Insisted
- Bossed
- Demanded
- Preached
- Dictated
- Professed
- Ordered

In a frightened way

- Quaked
- Stammered
- Shuddered
- Quivered
- Trembled

As an answer

- Responded
- Retorted
- Replied
- Answered
- Acknowledged

In an understanding way

- Empathised
- Accepted
- Consoled
- Crooned
- Comforted
- Sympathised
- Agreed

In a tired way

- Mumbled
- Struggled
- Emitted
- Wearied

In a begging way

- Begged
- Implored
- Pleaded
- Entreated

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Today we are going to be writing the dialogue
between the alien and the astronaut.



What did you include in your plan about what the conversation
would be about?

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Things to remember:

1. Keep it tight and avoid any unnecessary words
2. Move the action of the scene forward
3. No small talk
4. And remember, interruptions are good



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'It's OK,' Lucky's mother said **calmly**. 'You're going to put that gun down now, aren't you? Because *from the stars we all came . . .*'

'*. . . and to the stars we return!*' said the Alien. **He stared at her, the fire in his eyes flashing.** 'How do you know that? Who are you?'

'Let's just say I'm a friend,' she replied.

Lucky gaped at them both, speechless. He'd never heard an Alien voice before; you never heard them on the news. He'd always imagined they just roared and snarled like animals. Yet this one sounded very Human. And for her part, his mother was acting so strangely, he barely recognized her.

'Where's your ship?' **she asked the Alien as he put the gun down.** 'You still have a ship, don't you?'

'Best ship in the galaxy . . . except she's stuck in Aries, like we are.' **The Alien wiped his bloody nose, and retrieved his mirrorshades.** 'We can't leave this poxy system without our navigation! They took it away from us!'

Lucky's mother nodded. She **peered thoughtfully** at the refugee camp behind the fence, in the floodlights' glare. 'If someone could help you with that problem,' she said, 'if someone could give you what you need, would you leave Phoenix?'

'Course! Like a shot!'

'Even though the government just suspended space travel? You'd take off without clearance? You'd risk Shadow Guards coming after you?'

'Hell yeah!' **roared the Alien, stamping the ground with a hoof.** 'Anything to get out of this hole! After what just happened – I wouldn't care who came after me – I'd be gone!'

What do you notice about the speech between Lucky's mother and Frollix in this piece of dialogue?

- Action whilst they're talking:
The Alien wiped his bloody nose...

Roared the Alien, stamping the ground with a hoof...

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Create three lines of a dialogue between your alien and astronaut. Thinking about the actions of each character as they talk- make sure they are engaging!

In a frightened way

- Quaked
- Stammered
- Shuddered
- Quivered
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As an answer

- Responded
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As he crept closer and closer, I knew that he wanted to speak. Despite previously feeling quite cool, a peculiar warmth flushed over me from head to toe and my hands became clammy.

It will be fine, It will be fine...

"Who stands there?", bellowed the extra-terrestrial visitor, whose eyes began to slow from their side to side movement.

"I...I...I'm an astronaut and was travelling through space when my rocket unexpectedly hit an asteroid", I told him while I nervously twisted my fingers into a knot and shuffling my feet into the dusty land.

"Hmmm interesting", he announced. "You're not the first and you most certainly will not be the last!"

The alien looked at me and it felt like he was staring into my soul through his hypnotizing eyes. *What does he mean? Are there other abandoned astronauts here?* There was a lump in my throat. We stood looking at each other for what seemed like an eternity, until..

"Can you help me?", I finally asked, desperately hoping that he could. I didn't know what my other options were.

A smirk grew on his face like a snake sliding towards its prey. "Depends what is in it for me.", replied the alien, whose antennas were now flashing a deep shade of crimson red.

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Our dialogue is the end of the story, we need to leave our story on a **cliff-hanger**.



The cliff-hanger - this isn't an ending as such, it's a way of tempting the reader to read the next chapter or instalment.

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Three types of cliff-hangers:

Question

But where was her home, and
was there a family waiting
for her there?

Description

If she stayed tonight, she'd be
comfortable and fed, but it would
be harder to leave in the morning.
She hefted her pack and stepped
out onto the road.

Dialogue:

"But she can't go home," protested
Nell. "She doesn't even know where
home is."

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★Task★

Write the next part of your story, including dialogue between the alien and the astronaut. Think about how you are making your dialogue exciting as well as describing what the characters are doing.

Finish off your story with a cliff-hanger: *Does the alien lead the astronaut off into the darkness? Is there a final comment from the alien? Does the scene plunge into darkness and the reader is left not knowing what happened?*

Use the synonyms for said on your tables as well as the criteria for using dialogue and direct speech.