



Year 4 English Tasks – Tuesday 31st March 2020

Today, we shall continue working on our copying – aim for perfection (be as picky as Mr Gray is!) – as well as moving forwards with our direct speech punctuation.

Parents: Please see yesterday’s comments about copying. Splitting the direct speech up isn’t too hard but takes practice. Following the instructions here should help.

Children: Remember to focus on your handwriting during every task because bad habits are really hard to break. Have high expectations of yourself and push for perfection all the time.

1. Copy each sentence using your best handwriting
 - a. Their cat’s favourite food was chicken.
 - b. After lunch, Mr Gray remembered to phone Mr Neighbour.
 - c. “Where are our school clothes?” asked Helen.

Look carefully at the examples of direct speech.

“Quick,” shouted Tina loudly, “look over there.”
“Quick!” shouted Tina loudly. “Look over there.”

The blue highlighter shows you the differences between the two sentences. The new learning here is being able to put the reporting clause (who is speaking and/or how they are saying it) in the middle of the direct speech rather than at the end. As a writer, you now need to really consider what the punctuation is doing in the sentence. For example, the first blue punctuation after the word ‘quick’ doesn’t affect the lowercase ‘shouted’ at all – treat it like a normal, direct speech sentence. What is key is the second blue punctuation that comes after ‘loudly’. In the top sentence, there is comma after loudly, which means the sentence is continuing so the ‘look’ does NOT need a capital letter. In the bottom sentence, there is a full stop after loudly. This means the sentence has stopped so the ‘look’ will need a capital letter as it is the start of a new sentence. As both sentences have who is speaking in the middle, you do not need to put ‘said XYZ’ at the end again. You can just use a full stop or exclamation mark to end the sentences.

Have a go at the following task. If you get in a knot, take a picture and email it to Mr Neighbour. He’ll forward it to me and I’ll be able to give you feedback and help if you need it. Take your time and re-read my explanation (above) a few times before you have a go.

2. Correct the following sentences. You can add inverted commas wherever you think you need them. You can also add punctuation and capitals in the YELLOW sections. You cannot change the punctuation in RED.
 - a. is it nearly dinner asked Anna i’m starving
 - b. you’re early said the waiter your table isn’t quite ready
 - c. i can’t play out tonight explained Rachel i’ve got too much homework to do
 - d. it’s no use crying snapped Tony you’ll only make me angrier
3. Continue writing your diary. Here is an extract from mine that I started last week. Read it and think about how you reacted as a reader. Was there anything missing? Did you want more details about certain things? When you write yours today, try to include what you thought was missing from mine for your potential future readers!

Wednesday 25th March

Today was my second day working at home and I really enjoyed it. I was up at 06:30am, which is a bit later than normal, and was checking my emails by 07:30am. I stopped to do Joe Wick’s PE lesson at 9am – I actually really enjoyed it and it energised me for the rest of the day so I think I’ll keep doing it. For the rest of the morning, I worked on various bits for the class pages on the school website and spoke to Mr Neighbour for ages about different things. After lunch (Chinese chicken curry!) I answered my emails from the staff team and then continued working on Year 4’s maths and English for next week. I stopped work about 4pm and cut the grass – it certainly needed it and I really enjoyed being out in the sunshine. It was my turn to cook today so I did ‘Spag Bol’ which we enjoyed whilst watching TV. It’ll be interesting to see how long I continue to enjoy working at home and how long it is until I am desperate to get out and about or to catch up with friends and family – I am enjoying the video calls I’ve been having though!