

Direct or Indirect Speech?

I like
football.



Direct speech tells the reader exactly what words were said by a person.

Speech marks are used to show that it is exactly what the person said.

Harry said "I like football."

Indirect speech tells the idea of what a person said.

The exact words said are not given and so speech marks are not used.

Harry said he likes football.

Circle to show whether each sentence contains direct or indirect speech.

If it is direct speech, add in the correct punctuation.

- | | | |
|--|--------|----------|
| 1. Why are you so late? asked mum. | direct | indirect |
| 2. The ranger told the people they were being too loud. | direct | indirect |
| 3. The teacher asked the students to take out their books. | direct | indirect |
| 4. I love going to the library Sarah told Jane. | direct | indirect |
| 5. It will take about two hours to fix the plumber said. | direct | indirect |
| 6. The birthday girl asked for more cake. | direct | indirect |
| 7. Can't we play for a little longer? pleaded Gemma. | direct | indirect |
| 8. He said that he had already seen that movie before. | direct | indirect |
| 9. Thank you, said Kate, but I have already eaten. | direct | indirect |
| 10. Claire asked where the bathroom was. | direct | indirect |

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direct indirect

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3. The teacher asked the students to take out their books.

direct indirect

4. "I love going to the library," Sarah told Jane.

direct indirect

5. "It will take about two hours to fix," the plumber said.

direct indirect

6. The birthday girl asked for more cake.

direct indirect

7. "Can't we play for a little longer?" pleaded Gemma.

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8. He said that he had already seen that movie before.

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9. "Thank you," said Kate, "but I have already eaten."

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10. Claire asked where the bathroom was.

direct indirect