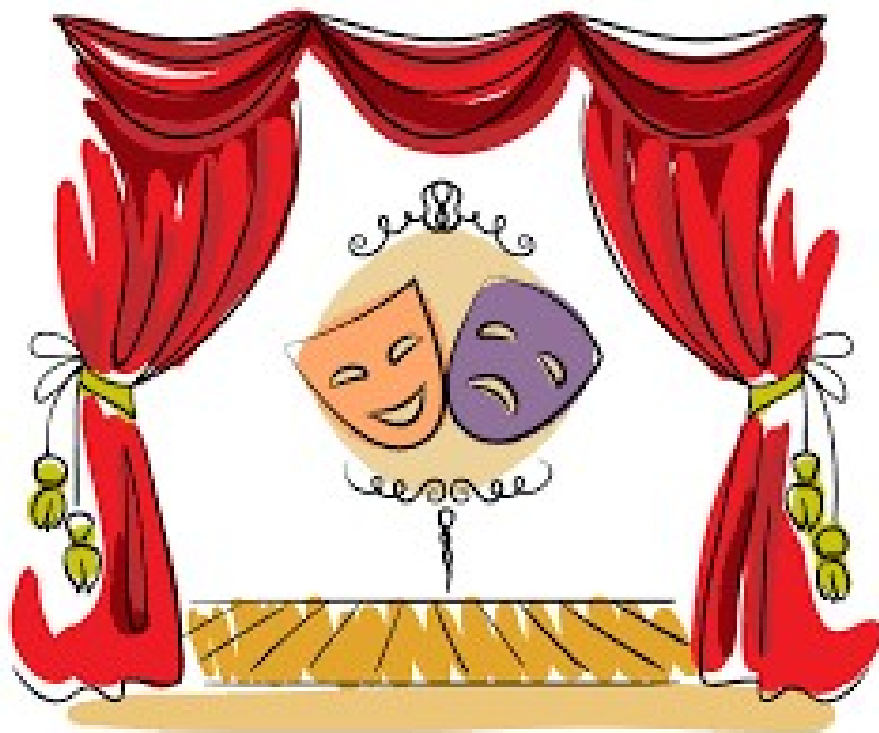


*It is time to
take the stage...*



This week it is *your* turn to ‘take the stage’! You will be: brushing up on your speech punctuation skills, creating two characters of your own and performing a short piece of speech you have written in character.

Move aside Leonardo DiCaprio and take a seat Meryl Streep;
there is a new cast in town...



Task One

Watch the short video below to refresh your memory on the rules of speech punctuation.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6-YFmLctwDY>

Now you have watched the video, punctuate the speech below.

1. Can I have one more ice lolly please asked Evie
2. Lucy walked through the door and said hello everyone, what a gorgeous sunny day!
3. How much is that doggy in the window asked Mercedes
4. The whole room went quiet and then she said would anyone like a cup of tea
5. The dogs were barking so loudly you could hardly hear Madeleine as she said welcome to my lovely home



Challenge: Can you improve the sentences by choosing more sophisticated adverbs.

Reasoning:

1. Explain why an author might decide to write all of someone's speech in capital letters.
2. Always, sometimes, never? You can use a full stop at the end of speech. Explain your reasoning.
3. Which piece of punctuation is most commonly used to close speech? Why?

Task Two

It is a dark, cold evening. The light breeze gently lifted and then lowered her hair. All she could hear was the wind whispering to the trees, making the leaves jostle with each other. That was until she turned the corner. She gasped. He stood still, directly in front of her, mirroring the shocked expression...

Read through the story starter above. I have introduced two characters (a woman and a man). However, I have not included *any* detail about the characters apart from their gender. This is your task!

Use your imagination to create these characters. Consider:

- What do they look like?
- Are they magical?
- How old are they?
- Do they have a family?
- Do they have a job?
- Do they have any hobbies?
- What do they like to eat?
- Are they kind? Cruel? Generous?
- Where are they from?



Draw and label and colour the two characters.

Task Three

It is time to *immerse* yourself in your character and begin to act.

Can you walk and talk as your character?

Think carefully about how they move. How a character moves tells a lot about them. Do they strut with confidence or shuffle with shame?

Can you interact with a family member or friend as your character?

Task Four

Now you have your two fully formed characters, think back to the story starter.

Consider:

- Why are they shocked to see each other?
- Do they know each other? How?
- Are they happy to see each other? Why?



Using correctly punctuated speech, write a conversation between the two characters. Can you convey (show the reader) their relationship using their speech and adverbs? A successful piece will show the reader their relationship without telling them ('show not tell').

See the example below:

"What on earth are you doing here Rick?" there was such a harshness to Sarah's voice that she surprised herself.

"You know why I am here Sarah," Rick's tone remained calm, such an admirable quality in such a cruel man.

"I don't have it – it has gone. You might as well crawl back into the hole you came out of," Sarah's voice began to quiver, her courage subsiding as she surveyed her surroundings for an escape.

"Nowhere to run? How quickly you forget I can read your mind," Rick's eyes saw straight into her soul, laughing at every embarrassment and coveting every secret.

Task Five

Choose one of the characters and learn their part of the conversation.

Ask a friend or family member to read the other characters speech.

Fully become the character, deliver the speech as them and move around as the character.

I look forward to hearing about your grand performance!