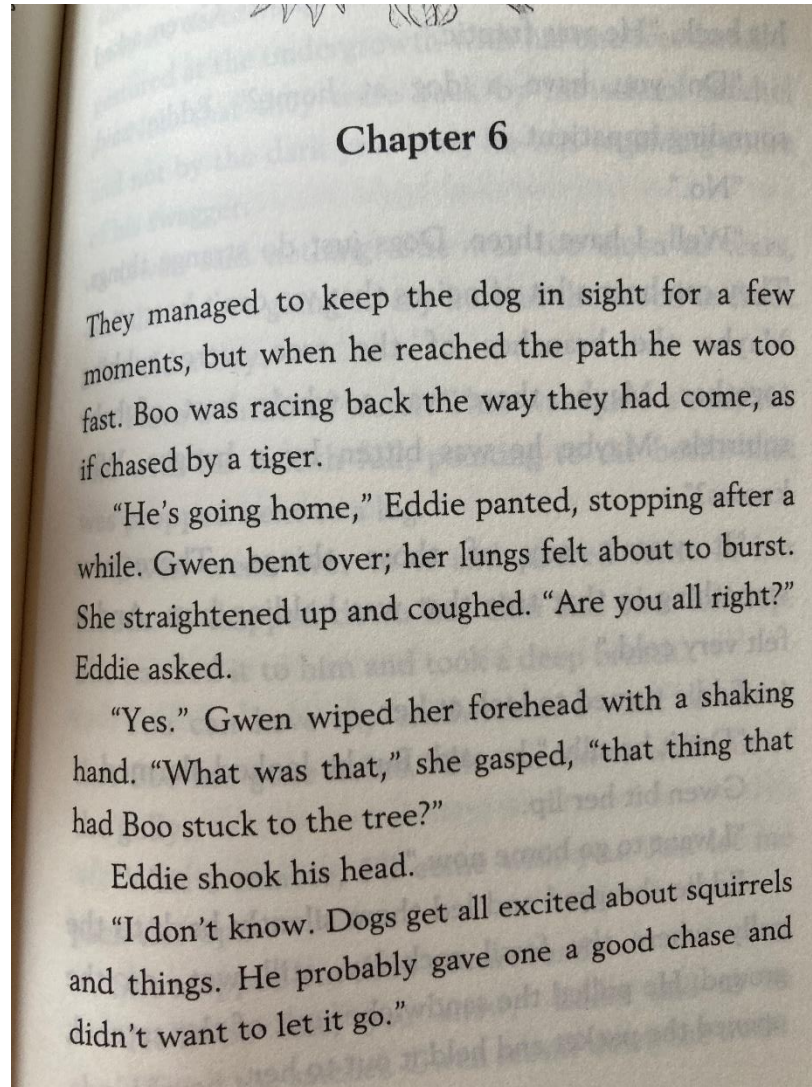


Direct Speech

Gwen and Eddie in Greencoats

Eddie and Gwen ... direct speech



Gwen and Eddie ... direct speech

Eddie hadn't seen the thing. He was walking back towards the gully and their sandwiches as if everything was fine.

"But why did he sound so scared?" Gwen asked his back. "He was frantic."

"Do you have a dog at home?" Eddie said, sounding impatient.

"No."

"Well, I have three. Dogs just do strange things. They can hear a lot of noises that we can't hear at all. Maybe the branches of the tree were rubbing together. Maybe there was a whole nest of baby squirrels. Maybe he was bitten by a badger. Who knows?"

"It wasn't any of those things. There was something in that tree that was holding him. And it felt very cold."

Eddie turned to look at her.

"Don't be silly," he said. But he looked alarmed.

Gwen bit her lip.

"I want to go home now."

Eddie shrugged and led them silently back to the gully where the fossil rock lay, still wet, on the ground. He pulled the sandwiches out of the satchel, opened the packet and held it out to her.

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Rules of Direct Speech

- The **general rules of direct speech** are:
- Each new character's speech starts on a new line.
- Speech is opened with speech marks.
- Each line of speech starts with a capital.
- The line of speech ends with a comma, exclamation mark or question mark.
- A reporting clause is used at the end (said Jane, shouted Paul, replied Mum).
- A full stop goes after the reporting clause.

Rules about Direct Speech

- ▶ If the direct speech in the sentence is broken up by information about who is speaking, add in a comma or question mark or exclamation mark to end the first piece of speech and a full stop or another comma before the second piece (before the speech marks), for example: "It's lovely," she sighed, "but I can't afford it right now."
- ▶ "I agree!" said Kate. "Let's go!"

Writing your own direct speech

- ▶ You are going to write a conversation between Gwen and Eddie about what happened at the yew tree and use direct speech correctly.

	Pupil	Teacher
Each character's speech starts on a new line.		
There are speech marks around the words they say.		
Each line of speech starts with a capital letter.		
The line of speech ends with a comma, exclamation mark or question mark.		
A reporting clause is used at the end (whispered Gwen/ shouted Eddie)		
A full stop goes at the end of the reporting clause.		