

Direct and Indirect Quotations

Learn

Lisa asked, "Who painted those animals?" Toby explained that early cave dwellers painted them.

Underline the sentence that shows a speaker's exact words. Circle the marks that begin and end this quotation. Circle the first letter of the quotation.

A **direct quotation** is a speaker's exact words. Use **quotation marks** at the beginning and end of a direct quotation. Use a comma to separate the speaker's exact words from the rest of the sentence. Begin a direct quotation with a capital letter. Add end punctuation (period, question mark, exclamation point, or comma in place of a period) before the last quotation mark. An **indirect quotation** is a retelling of a speaker's words. Do not use quotation marks when the word *that* or *whether* comes before a speaker's words.

Practice

Write **I** after each indirect quotation and **D** after each direct quotation. Then add quotation marks, commas, and end marks to direct quotations. Draw three lines (≡) under lowercase letters that should be capitalized.

1. Toby said that the pictures were discovered in Spain in 1879. _____
2. He added the Altamira caves are filled with art. _____
3. Paulo said an entire herd of animals is painted onto the ceiling. _____
4. But who painted them Lisa asked. _____
5. Paulo answered scientists believe that Stone Age people painted them. _____
6. The scientists are still figuring out how they managed to do this he added. _____
7. Then he reminded everyone that caves are pitch black inside. _____
8. Remember that these were drawn thousands of years ago he said. _____
9. Lisa wondered whether Altamira was the only cave with art. _____
10. Toby replied the Lascaux Caves in France also have beautiful paintings. _____
11. The artists used powdered minerals in different shades he explained. _____
12. Hollow stone lamps lit up the inside of the cave he continued. _____
13. He pointed out that these lamps used animal fat as fuel. _____

Apply

Rewrite each indirect quotation as a direct quotation. Rewrite each direct quotation as an indirect quotation. (There may be more than one right way to do this.) Be sure to use punctuation marks correctly.

14. Eli wondered whether all the colors were shades of brown. _____

15. Gina explained that the colors included everything from white clay to black charcoal, as well as shades of brown, red, and yellow.

16. Paulo said, "Artists must have been uncomfortable in some of those narrow passageways."

17. Toby pointed out that scientists have found some sort of platform supports that the artists probably used.

18. Gina said, "Some artists painted with their hands, while others used drawing or engraving tools."

19. Paulo wondered whether the pictures ever showed human beings. _____

20. "Yes," said Toby, "but the drawings of the animals are better." _____

21. Then he explained that the humans are shown as stick figures, while the animals are very detailed.

22. "I wonder why the drawings were made," said Eli. _____

23. Lisa said that she loved the drawings because they were beautiful. _____
