Quotation marks

TEACHER INFORMATION

Quotation marks (" ") are used to:

- enclose direct speech; e.g. 'I can see you', said Tim.
- show quotations within quotations; e.g. 'The song is called "Insects", I think', said Maya.
- enclose words that the writer may not be using in their usual sense; e.g. The learner driver 'kangaroo-hopped' down the road.
- enclose the meaning of a word; e.g. The Spanish word 'siesta' means 'a short nap'.
- enclose titles of books, songs, special names, plays etc. (in handwritten work); e.g. "The lion king" was playing.

Prim-Ed Publishing® follows guidelines for punctuation and grammar as recommended by the *Style manual for authors, editors and printers*, sixth edition, 2002. Note, however, that teachers should use their preferred guidelines if there is a conflict.

Answers

- 1. (a) "Are you going to celebrate your birthday this year?" Kelly asked Amber.
 - (b) The teacher said, "You will need to complete this work before lunch".
 - (c) Emma asked her cousin to come over and Alice said, 'Great! I'll be there soon'.
 - (d) 'I don't really remember exactly what happened that day', the man told the officer.
 - (e) His doctor stated, 'The condition is definitely not as serious as I first thought'.
 - (f) 'Think about creating a quality piece that could be the centre of attention', suggested the artist.
- 2. (a) "My parents are usually great," said Jess, "but yesterday they were both tired and grumpy".
 - (b) "Our regular training has been cancelled," I told Dad, "so can I go to Max's for awhile?"
 - (c) "I'm so disappointed you've been dishonest, Tom", Mum said. "There was no reason for you to make that choice."
 - (d) "Take that man into custody immediately", ordered the judge. "The jury has made its decision."
 - (e) "A calculator will be available for the first test," explained Mrs Lee, "but not the second".
 - (f) "We just passed a horrible car accident", I told Dad. "I saw two ambulances, the police and a fire truck."
- 3. (a) "Mum said, "Be back at five o'clock", I told Oliver's dad.
 - (b) Zac said, "I don't understand this. It's says here, "Write a complex sentence with adjectives "".
 - (c) 'Place your feet solidly on the blocks before the starter says, "Take your mark!"' the coach explained.
 - (d) 'Did you actually say, "I haven't finished my homework yet"?' Mum asked.
 - (e) "I watched the film "Australia" last night and enjoyed it", Adam said to Trent.
 - (f) 'The title is "Jane's promise" and it is printed at the top of each page', I told her.
- 4. (a) 'Do you exercise for 30 minutes every day?' I asked Aunt Amy.
 - (b) The librarian said, "You really need to keep the noise down".
 - (c) "The price is expensive," the repairer said, "but if you pay cash, I'll charge 10% less".
- 5. Answers will vary.