LEARNING OBJECTIVE: TO EXPAND MY USE OF SENTENCES, INCLUDING USING SPEECH

ENGLISH

We can use different types of sentences for different purposes in our writing. Let's remind ourselves what the different types of sentences are.

1 STATEMENTS

Statements are sentences which tell you a fact, opinion or idea.

Example:
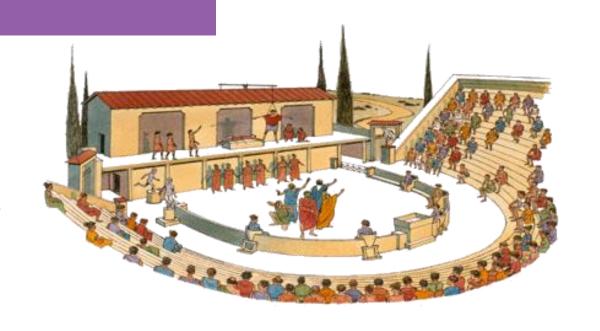The Greeks had twelve gods and goddesses.

The best God was Zeus.

2 QUESTIONS

Questions are sentences that ask you something.
They usually end with a question mark.

Example:

What did the Greeks do for fun?

3 COMMANDS

They are often urgent or angry, can be very short and contain an imperative verb. Commands Imperative verbs are also known as 'bossy verbs'- they tell people what to do.
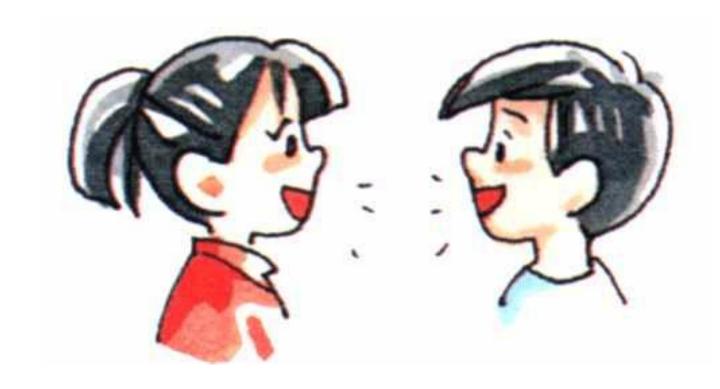
Example:
Help me! Give me it.

4 EXCLAMATIONS

An exclamation is used when someone is surprised.
It sometimes starts with 'How' or 'What' and contains a noun and a verb.

Example:
What shiny armour you have!

We can add direct speech using inverted commas into our different sentence types.
Let's have a quick reminder about inverted commas:

INVERTED COMMAS

There are two places where inverted commas are needed when writing direct speech:

"What's the matter, Alexander?" said Orion.

Inverted Commas

Inverted Commas

You need to **open** your inverted commas with a " (66) before the first word which is being spoken.

You need to **close** your inverted commas with a " (99) after the last word **which is being spoken**.

Imagine that inverted commas are like hands;
They hold within them **only** the words which are being spoken.

"What's the matter, Alexander**?"**   **said Orion.**

PUNCTUATION

There are two places where other forms of punctuation are needed when writing direct speech:

"What's the matter, Alexander?" said Orion.

You need to end the speaking with:
• a comma
• a question mark, if it is a question.
• an exclamation mark, if it is an exclamation.

You will need to finish your sentence with a full stop after the reporting clause.

Examples of other punctuation in direct speech are:
"How exciting it is!" exclaimed Sarah.
"I don't know what to do," said Sayeed.

REPORTING CLAUSES

After the speech itself, a reporting clause gives a little bit of information about **who is speaking** and **how it was said.**

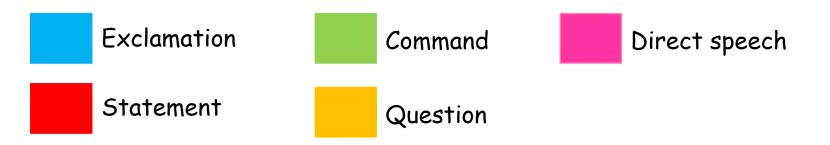"What's the matter, Alexander?" **said Orion.**

Reporting clause

In this case, Orion is speaking.

If Orion said it in a different way, you could change 'said' to...

| "What's the matter, Alexander?" **asked Orion.** | "What's the matter, Alexander?" **asked Orion.** | "What's the matter, Alexander?" **uttered Orion.** | "What's the matter, Alexander?" **shouted Orion.** |

In diary writing, you need to make sure that you are using different types of sentences. What sentence types can you spot in this text?

Today, the Olympic festivities began. It was amazing! Fans paraded the streets, placing bets, selling cattle, and enjoying the beautiful Greek sun that covered itself over the brick streets of Athens. I would soon make my way to Olympia for my next event, but before that, I attended the presentation of the Olympic sacrifices.
There was a man sacrificing 100 oxen for Zeus' statue of solid gold, standing at forty-two feet in the Temple of Olympus. I heard him boom, "Almighty Zeus, we present you with 100 oxen. Take them. Help us be worthy."
As I watched, I began feeling the pressure of the contest come down on me. What if I do not win? What if I am not good enough?

Exclamation

Command

Direct speech

Statement

Question

Today, the Olympic festivities began. What an amazing sight! Fans paraded the streets, placing bets, selling cattle, and enjoying the beautiful Greek sun that covered itself over the brick streets of Athens. I would soon make my way to Olympia for my next event, but before that, I attended the presentation of the Olympic sacrifices. There was a man sacrificing 100 oxen for Zeus' statue of solid gold, standing at forty-two feet in the Temple of Olympus. I heard him boom, "Almighty Zeus, we present you with 100 oxen. Take them. Help us be worthy." As I watched, I began feeling the pressure of the contest come down on me. What if I do not win? What if I am not good enough?