Grammar – Direct Speech

Learn

“Where is my cheese?” Dad asked. “Mice are eating it,” replied Lisa. “This drink is horrible!” thought mother mouse.

**Direct speech** is when we write down the exact words someone has spoken. We put **speech marks** at the beginning and end of the words spoken.

Look at this sentence: “Mice are eating it,” replied Lisa.
The words spoken by Lisa were: *Mice are eating it.*

Notice the speech marks come before the first word spoken “Mice … and after the last word spoken … it,”

Speech marks come after the comma: “Mice are eating it,” replied Lisa.

Speech marks come after the question mark: “Where is my cheese?” Dad asked.

Similarly the speech marks would come after the exclamation mark: “This drink is horrible!” thought mother mouse.

Put in the missing speech marks and underline the actual words spoken in each sentence.

"I'm hungry," said Luke.
So am I, replied Sam.
Let's go and get something to eat, Luke suggested.
Shall we have a burger and chips? Sam asked.
That's a good idea, agreed Luke.
I'm going to have a king size burger, Sam said.
And I'm going to have a large portion of chips, smiled Luke.
Shall we have a drink as well? Sam asked.
Yes. Let's have a can of cola each, Luke said.
Pass me the sugar, please, said Mrs. Norland.
Are you tired? asked the teacher.
I can see you, shouted Brian.
Please, Mummy, may I have an apple? begged Simon.
Come here, Spot, said the little boy to his dog.
I don't want to go to bed yet, said Sandra with a pout.
Hurry up, Linda, or you'll be late, said her mother.
Spare a penny for the guy, please? asked the two boys.
Here is fifty pence for you, replied the gentleman.
Be quiet, baby's sleeping, whispered Jennifer's mother.

Complete these sentences with the right phrases from the speech bubbles.

Have you ever been to America?  Yes. The take off was really good.  Yes. I went to Florida last year.  Did you go by plane?

“Have you ever been to America?” asked Abdi.

“___________________________________” Lucy replied.

“___________________________________” Abdi asked.

“___________________________________” Lucy answered.

Write this conversation in sentences, as direct speech.

Samir: You don't look well.
	“You don't look well,” Samir said.
Indira: I feel ill.
	_____________________________________
Samir: I told you not to eat all those sweets!
	_____________________________________
Indira: I think I'd better go to bed.
	_____________________________________ 
Samir: I hope you feel better tomorrow.
	_____________________________________