

# Online Reading Lesson 16


## "Fire on the Farm"

Using "Speech Marks" - Direct speech

### Fire on the Farm

Story by Pauline Cartwright  
Illustrated by Julian Bruere.



- To read today's text (story), you will need to open your PM readers online and search for a book called; "Fire on the Farm" by Pauline Cartwright. It is in level 25.  
[Access PM Readers](#)
- If you haven't read chapter 1 and chapter 2 yet, you will need to read the whole story.
- If you read chapters 1 and 2 last week, you can begin at chapter 3 and read to the end of the book. Remember Shannon and Toby have been left alone on the farm and a bushfire has started.
- Don't forget that you can click the play  button to hear each page read out aloud.



## 4 Basic Rules of Direct Speech

1. Speech marks surround the sections of speech

☆ your book is over there ☆

2. Direct speech begins with a capital letter

☆ Your book is over there "

3. Punctuation goes inside the speech marks

"Your book is over there! ☆

4. Every speaker begins on a new line

"Your book is over there!" yelled the teacher.


"Thanks!" replied Jonny.



### "Speech Marks"

Speech marks go around the part of the text that somebody is speaking.



**You will have practised this at school, it seems complicated, but it is easier if you remember the four rules in the box above.** 

I want you to read the four rules, read them out aloud to another person in your house, (or read them aloud to your pet if nobody else wants to listen!)

**Listen to this video: [Reading the rules.](#)**



Now look at this writing box ↓ I am going to copy out the words of direct speech:

As she rode into the yard, Aaron Campbell's car was coming up the drive and, beyond it, another car — her parents.

"Toby caught us before we reached town," called Dad. He leapt from the car and hugged Shannon and Toby. Mum was close behind. Then Dad saw the horses. He stared past the yard — that seemed to be filled with people and animals — to the Pines Paddock and the fire beyond.



toby caught us before we reached town called dad

"Toby caught us before we reached town," called Dad.

I have copied the sentence out and I have highlighted the words that were spoken. (the direct speech)



Now it's your turn to repeat what I have done and to write and highlight in the boxes below 🖐

### Direct Speech Rules

Every now and again, Toby called them to look at the fire from the upstairs window. Once Mum said, "Toby, straighten up this room. There are cushions and mats everywhere. You'd think the dogs had been racing about in here!" She didn't understand why Toby couldn't stop laughing.

In the late afternoon, the wind dropped. Shannon and Toby went to bed that night knowing that the danger was over.

They didn't see Dad until the next morning.

"Shannon," said Dad, putting an arm around her shoulders, "I hope you didn't put yourself in any danger getting the horses out. They're precious to me, but you're more precious, by far. You know that, don't you?"

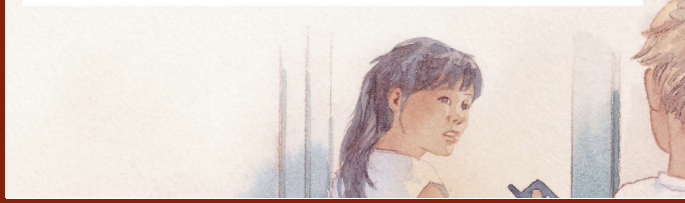


once mum said toby straighten up this room there are cushions and mats everywhere you'd think the dogs had been racing about in here



## Direct Speech Rules

"You can't be scared!" said Shannon fiercely. "You have to be grown-up, and responsible. Call Mum and Dad. Now. Tell them to come home. I'll be back in a few minutes. Watch me out the window." Shannon went across the yard to get the bike.



you can't be scared said Shannon  
fiercely



## Direct Speech Rules

"Shannon, get me your mum or dad." It was Mrs Campbell from the farm next door.

Shannon whispered, "They're in town, at the bank."

There was a silence. Then Mrs Campbell was saying, "Shannon, I don't know if you've seen — "

"Yes, we've seen the fire."

"I'm sending Aaron over to get you."

"I'll ring Mum and Dad," said Shannon. "I've got Dad's mobile number."



shannon, get me your mum or dad  
it was Mrs Campbell from the  
farm next door Shannon  
whispered, they're in town, at the  
bank

✓✓✓ Well done! Now all you have to do is try to remember these rules the next time that you're writing a narrative or story. 🙌🙌