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| **Grammar Masters: Teacher’s Notes**  **Topic: Inverted Commas** |
| Inverted commas are also called speech marks and are used to indicate direct speech.  e.g “What an exciting day!” exclaimed Polly.  They show that someone is speaking. Children often make mistakes when inserting inverted commas. They need to be reminded to only put the inverted commas around what is being **said!**  Direct speech can come at the beginning, middle and end of a sentence.  e.g “Good morning everyone!” said the teacher.  The teacher said, “Good morning everyone!”  The teacher said “Good morning everyone!” in a loud voice.  Children often get confused when speech comes in the middle of a sentence or when speech is broken up.  e.g “Welcome to our school,” said the Headteacher, “We have seven classes in our school and one nursery.”  When writing direct speech, children also need to remember to begin with a capital letter and to end direct speech with a punctuation mark (. , ! ? ). This punctuation mark needs to come **inside** the inverted commas.  Although we are only looking at direct speech in the unit, it is important that children realise that there are 2 types of speech: direct and reported/ indirect.  Direct speech is when words are directly being said and therefore need inverted commas.  e.g “I’m not feeling well,” moaned Ben.  Reported/indirect speech is when someone reports something that is being said and does not need inverted commas.  e.g Ben moaned that he wasn’t feeling well. |

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