

# Year 4 Literacy Home Learning

## Activities 1,2 and 3

### Activity 1- Read story 'Icarus' retold by Ruth Merttens

- Read the story aloud, using good expression to read what is said.
- Now read it through again, answering the '*Exploring Icarus*' questions as you go.

### Activity 2- Punctuating speech

- Read through the *Punctuating Speech Cards*.
- Use the *Speech Bubbles* sheet to record what Daedalus and Icarus say to each other about their escape.
- Use your speech bubble notes to write *Punctuated Dialogue*.

### Activity 3- Writing

- Rewrite your own version of the story 'Icarus'.
- Be as creative as you like and remember to include what you have learnt about punctuating speech.
- Use the success criteria to support your writing.

### **Try the Fun-Time Extras**

- Daedalus was a great inventor. If you could invent something what would it be? Draw and label it and write a description of what it does.
- Design your own maze for the Minotaur. You could try making it out of Lego.



2. How would you describe the main characters? Are they kind or cruel? How do you feel about them?

**Daedalus**



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**Icarus**



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3. How do you think it must feel to be able to fly? What did you think about the story? How does it make you **feel**?



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## Punctuating Direct Speech

### Spotting Direct Speech

The words *said* in a text are called **direct speech**.

How do we know which words are **direct speech**? What clues are there?

- The language is written as it would be **said**.
- There are **speech marks** 'hugging' the spoken words.
- *He said* (or an equivalent) is written before or after the spoken words – this is the **reporting clause**.

### Punctuating Speech

Speech bubbles can show us what a character is saying.



Icarus! Take care!

The words *said* are called **direct speech**.

"Icarus! Take care!" called Daedalus.

Bubbles take up too much room so we use **speech marks**.  
**Speech marks** work in pairs to hug the **direct speech**.

We report who is speaking using a **reporting clause**.

Speech marks are also called *inverted commas*.

### Punctuating Speech – capital letters open **direct speech**

**Direct speech** begins with a capital letter, even if it is in the middle of a sentence.

Daedalus said, "We shall fly home to Athens."

Icarus replied, "Let's go now!"



It is the beginning of the speaker's sentence so a capital letter is used.

### Punctuating Speech – commas separate clauses

**Direct speech** and **reporting clauses** are usually separated by a comma.

"I am so excited about flying away from this tower," he said.

Daedalus replied, "Remember not to fly too close to the sun!"



The comma is placed at the end of the first clause.

The speech marks follow the comma.

## Punctuating Direct Speech

### Punctuating Speech – exclamations and questions


If the speech ends in a **!** or **?** we do not need a comma after the speech.

*"You're flying too high!"* shouted Daedalus.

*"What did you say?"* Icarus replied.

The punctuation is placed inside the speech marks.  
The punctuation belongs to the spoken words – they tell you how to say them.

### Punctuating Speech – a new line shows a change of speaker



The illustration shows Icarus on the left with wings, and Daedalus on the right holding a scroll. Three speech bubbles are shown: the top one from Icarus says "I can see such a long way.", the middle one from Daedalus says "Be careful not to fly too high!", and the bottom one from Icarus says "Don't worry, I'll be fine." To the right of the illustration, three lines of text are shown: "I can see such a long way," said Icarus. "Be careful not to fly too high!" cried Daedalus. "Don't worry, I'll be fine," smiled Icarus.

We show each **change of speaker** by starting a new line.

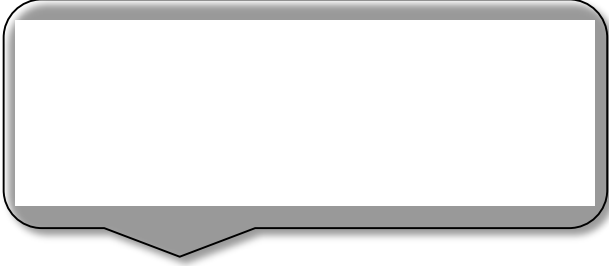
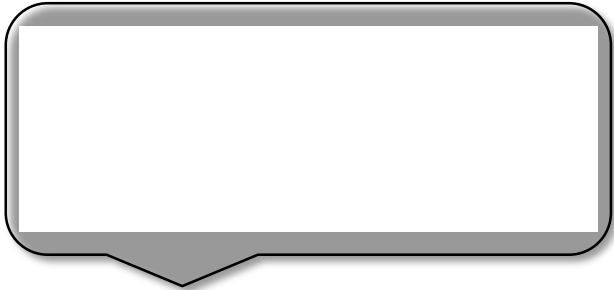
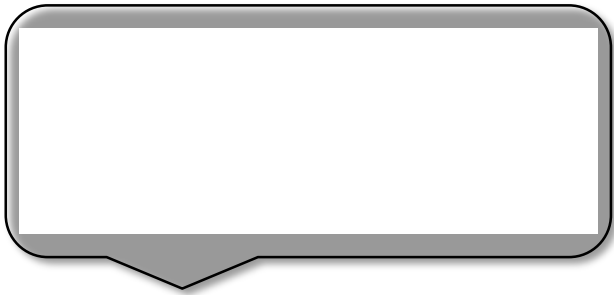
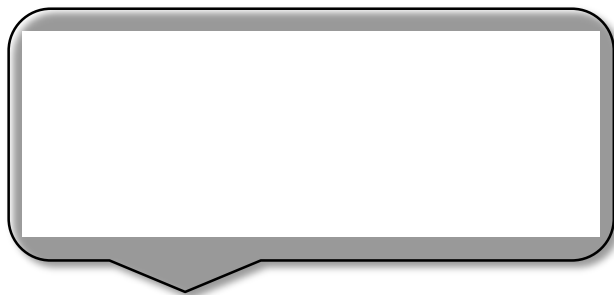
This makes it clear when the speaker changes.

- Hug the words spoken with speech marks
- Start the speakers' words with a capital letter
- Separate the speech and reporting clause with a comma
- Start a new line to show the speaker has changed

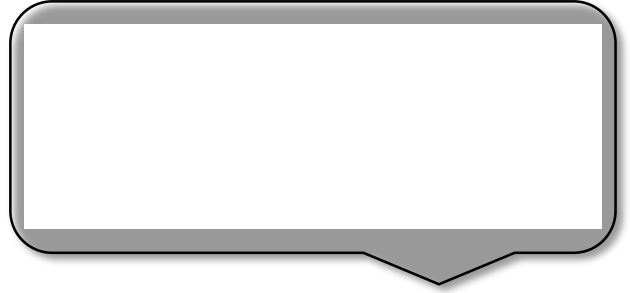
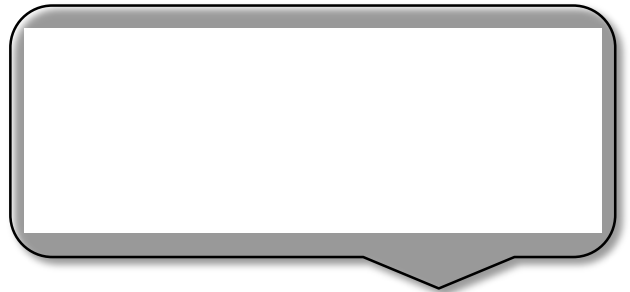
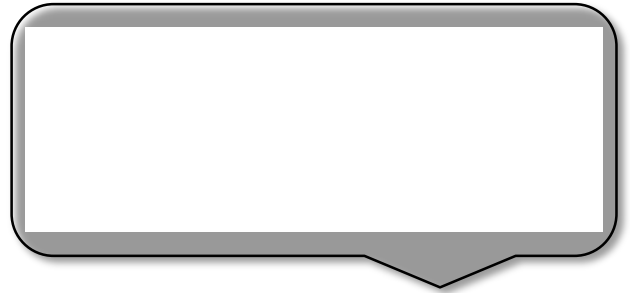
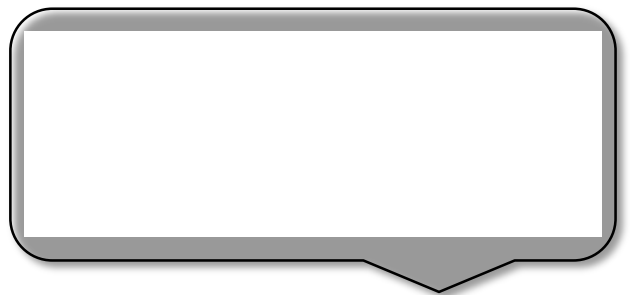
## Activity 2 -Speech Bubbles

Use the speech bubbles to write down a conversation between Icarus and Daedalus before they set off.

*Daedalus*

An empty speech bubble with a rounded top and a pointed bottom, intended for writing a line of dialogue for Daedalus.An empty speech bubble with a rounded top and a pointed bottom, intended for writing a line of dialogue for Daedalus.An empty speech bubble with a rounded top and a pointed bottom, intended for writing a line of dialogue for Daedalus.An empty speech bubble with a rounded top and a pointed bottom, intended for writing a line of dialogue for Daedalus.

*Icarus*

An empty speech bubble with a rounded top and a pointed bottom, intended for writing a line of dialogue for Icarus.An empty speech bubble with a rounded top and a pointed bottom, intended for writing a line of dialogue for Icarus.An empty speech bubble with a rounded top and a pointed bottom, intended for writing a line of dialogue for Icarus.An empty speech bubble with a rounded top and a pointed bottom, intended for writing a line of dialogue for Icarus.

## Writing Dialogue

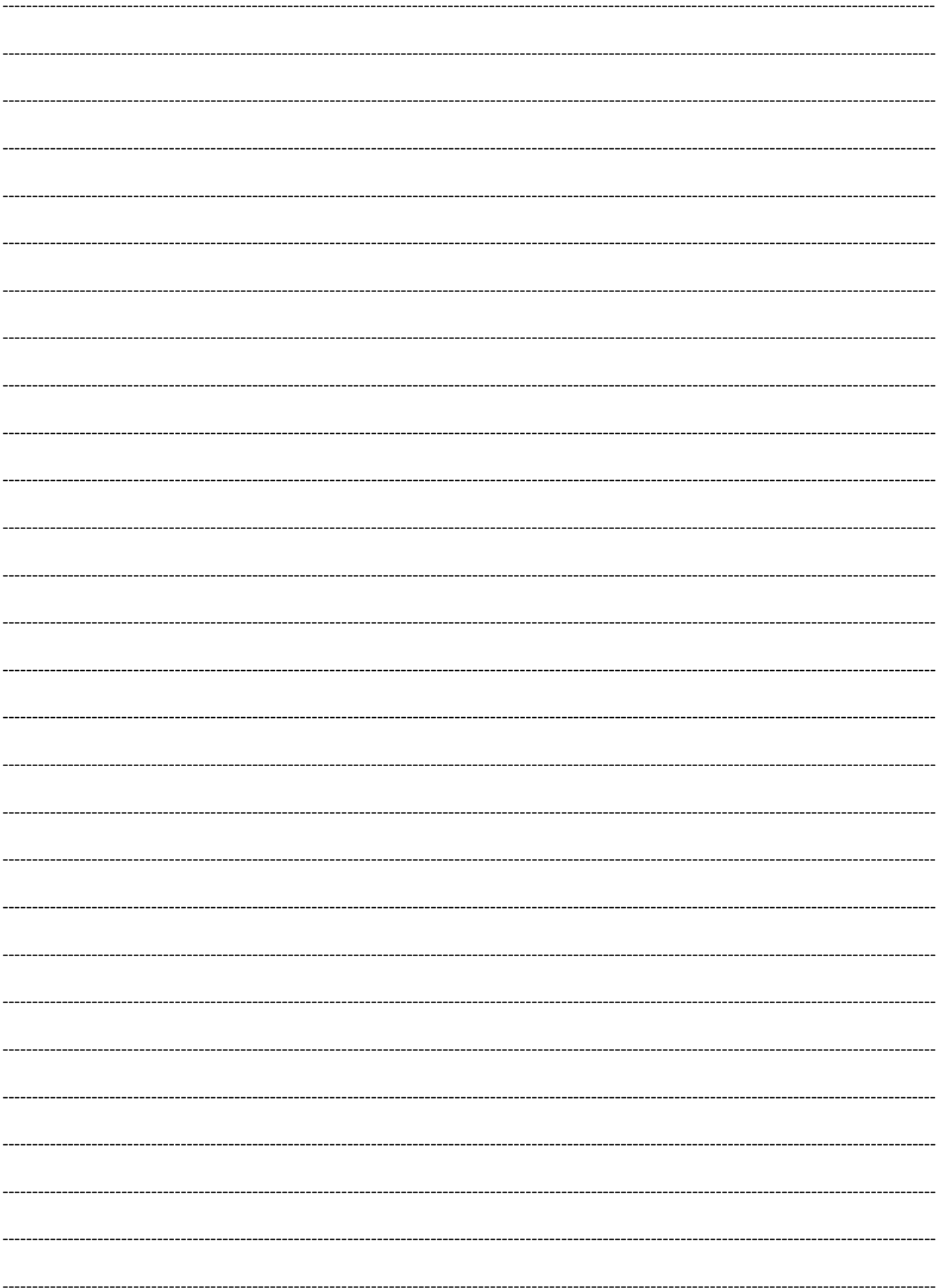
Using your speech bubbles and what you have learnt about punctuating direct speech to write out your conversation between Daedalus and Icarus. Think carefully about how they might *say* each sentence.



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