

Snow day English Work

Remember when punctuating speech, inverted commas are not enough.

- If speech comes after a reported clause then a **comma** is needed before the inverted comma. Eg Harry whispered, “
- Speech starts with inverted commas “ and a **capital letter**. (Unless it’s an interruption. “I’m a wizard?” stuttered Harry in utter disbelief, “**a** wizard, I can’t be.”)
- Speech ends with either . , ? or ! and then the inverted commas”
- Each new character’s line of speech requires a new line.

Read and **rewrite** the passage to **punctuate speech in the correct places**. Remember:

- New line for a new speaker
- Inverted commas hug the spoken words
- Capital letter is always used to start speech (unless the speech has an interruption)
- Ending punctuation .,! ? always goes **INSIDE** the inverted comma at the end.
- Always proof read

Extract from: Stormbreaker

*I’m afraid we haven’t had a great deal of time, Mrs J, Smithers replied. **The challenge was to think what a fourteen-year-old might carry with him - and adapt it.*** He picked the first object off the tray. A yo-yo. It was slightly larger than normal, made of black plastic.

Let’s start with this, Smithers said. Alex shook his head. He couldn’t believe any of this. **Don’t tell me!** he exclaimed. **It’s some sort of secret weapon...**

Not exactly. I was told you weren’t to have weapons. You’re too young.

So it’s not really a hand grenade? Pull the string and run?

Certainly not. It’s a yo-yo. Smithers pulled out the string, holding it between a podgy finger and thumb. *However, the string is a special sort of nylon. Very advanced. There are thirty metres of it and it can lift weights of up to one hundred kilograms. The actual yo-yo is motorized and clips on to your belt. Very useful for climbing. **Amazing.*** Alex was unimpressed.

Extension activity: Continue the text with speech, explaining one more piece of spy equipment – see how inventive you can be.

