

## Using Speech in Paragraphs – Fiction

Over the previous few minutes, the grim sky had grown much darker. Sadie watched as a huge, grey cloud began to spiral down towards the ground. A tornado! Feeling very scared, she ran inside. Her dad had said to call him if the weather turned worse before he arrived home. He answered the phone instantly. “You sound terrified, Sadie! You’ll be fine, and I’m driving back home right now. Are you ok?” he asked.

“I’m scared, Dad,” Sadie squeaked. “The warning sirens have started wailing and no one is outside anymore. Where are you?”

“I’ve just gone past the crossroads by the church. The streets are pretty empty so that’ll help me get to you faster. I’ll only be five minutes. While you wait for me, get yourself into the basement.”

Sadie knew it was going to feel like the longest five minutes of her life. Trying to keep calm, she stepped down into the basement.

1. What is the first sentence spoken in the conversation between Sadie and her father?

2. How many times in the text has a new paragraph been started because a new person is speaking?

3. Copy an example of indirect speech from the text.

4. Below are some examples of speech from the text. Match each example to its description.

1) I’m scared, Dad,

2) I’ve just gone past the crossroads by the church.

3) You sound terrified, Sadie! You’ll be fine, and I’m driving back home right now.

A) Sadie’s dad is the first speaker in a conversation

B) Sadie is a new speaker in a conversation

C) Sadie’s dad is a new speaker in a conversation

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Tessa's ship punched through the swirling, red clouds above the landing zone. She could see the whole of the Mars 1 base spread out beneath her. "Mars 1 control centre, this is battleship 232 speaking. We have been hit and need a safe place to land. Can you help?" she asked. As it dropped lower, the spaceship began to shake. Tessa did not have much time.

"Battleship 232, this is Mars 1 control centre speaking." As the voice crackled through her headset, Tessa relaxed. "We can see you and are making a landing bay ready. It will be open in two minutes."

"It's going to take two minutes?" cried Tessa. Inside the ship, thick smoke was beginning to appear. "We don't have two minutes up here! We're leaking fuel and coming down quickly!"

As Tessa began to panic, the voice in her ear told her that everything would be worked out in time. She was not so sure. Would she have to make a crash landing?

5. Write the next two sentences of the story. You must include indirect speech spoken by Tessa and the voice on the radio.

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6. The sentence below could be placed after the final sentence of paragraph three:

"Can't they help us?" cried a member of Tessa's crew.

Would the sentence start a new paragraph? Why?

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7. Rewrite paragraph four so that any indirect speech is written as direct speech.

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