

Year 3 / 4 English - Alternative verbs for 'said' Lesson 2

Learning Objective: To know and use alternative verbs for 'said'.

In the last lesson you learned the meanings of some verbs that can be used instead of 'said' to describe how someone is speaking.

Guided Practice

Choose a verb to fill in the gap in each of the sentences below.

"We'll all have to be very quiet," _____ George

shouted whispered argued

"I'll huff and I'll puff and I'll blow your house down," _____ the Big Bad Wolf

sarled stammered questioned

"We've won the lottery!" _____ the man.

mumbled whined cheered

Here is an excerpt from *George's Marvellous Medicine* by Roald Dahl. The verb 'said' has been repeated every time one of the characters speaks.



"You're late!" **said** Grandma.

"I don't think I am Grandma," **said** George

"Don't interrupt me in the middle of a sentence!" she **said**.

"But you'd finished your sentence, Grandma," **said** George.

"There you go again!" she **said**, "Always interrupting and arguing. You really are a tiresome little boy. What's the time?"

"It's exactly eleven o'clock, Grandma," **said** George.

"You're lying as usual. Stop talking so much and give me my medicine. Shake the bottle first. Then pour into onto the spoon and make sure it's a whole spoonful," **said** Grandma.

"Are you going to gulp it all down in one go?" George **said**, "Or will you sip it?"

"What I do is none of your business", the old woman **said**, "Fill the spoon."

It is ok to use 'said' sometimes, but it is important to use other verbs so that the reader knows how the characters are speaking.

Write out the paragraph again by hand, filling in the gaps with the verbs below. The first one has been done for you.

cried said replied shouted snarled asked snapped

"You're late!" **snapped** Grandma.

"I don't think I am Grandma," _____ George

"Don't interrupt me in the middle of a sentence!" she _____.

"But you'd finished your sentence, Grandma," _____ George.

"There you go again!" she _____, "Always interrupting and arguing. You really are a tiresome little boy. What's the time?"

"It's exactly eleven o'clock, Grandma," _____ George.

"You're lying as usual. Stop talking so much and give me my medicine. Shake the bottle first. Then pour into onto the spoon and make sure it's a whole spoonful," _____ Grandma.

"Are you going to gulp it all down in one go?" George _____, "Or will you sip it?"

"What I do is none of your business", the old woman _____, "Fill the spoon."

Independent Practice

Try reading out the sentences below using the voices described!

"Go Reds!" cheered the crowd.

"Do I HAVE to tidy my room?" moaned Luke.

"Your only eight years old," snorted Grandma.

