

Dialogue rules

- Each time someone talks it is a new paragraph
- Paragraphs are indented
- What is said is put between quotation marks “ ”

Dialogue example

“What are you doing after school?” asked Sam.
“Nothing,” replied Emily. “Want to see a movie?”
“That’d be great,” Sam said, trying to play it cool. Sam had a crush on Emily since the 7th grade. Now that they were in high school, he has seen more of her.
“Okay, I will meet you at the mall. Seven o’clock?”
“I’ll be there.”

What Sam says is in between “ ”

New speaker, new paragraph

If the writing is longer than one line, it goes on to the next line, on the left margin

We know this is Sam talking

We know this is Emily talking so the author does not need to use her

PRACTICE

Read the passage through at least twice. Picture who is talking to whom. It is hard to tell because the information is scrambled due to improper writing of dialogue.

You will have 15 minutes to rewrite the passage below, correctly.

- Write your response ON ONE SHEET of YOUR paper for the group.
- Perhaps start by boxing or underlining what is said out loud
- Perhaps highlighting in different colors will help you see who is talking to whom
- There are 5 speakers in the passage below
- Write your group’s response on the sheet of scratch paper
- Be sure to include necessary quotation marks, indentions, and commas

Look this way, Harry! This way! he cried shrilly. Who’s that? said Fred. No idea Harry lied, putting on a spurt of speed that took him as far away as possible from Colin. What’s going on? said Wood, frowning as he skimmed through the air toward them. Why’s the first year taking pictures? I don’t like it. He could be a Slytherin spy, trying to find out about our new training program. He’s in Gryffindor said Harry quickly. And the Slytherins don’t need a spy, Oliver said George. What makes you say that? said Wood testily. Because they’re here in person said George, pointing.

Look this way, Harry! This way! he cried shrilly. Who's that? said Fred. No idea Harry lied, putting on a spurt of speed that took him as far away as possible from Colin. What's going on? said Wood, frowning as he skimmed through the air toward them. Why's the first year taking pictures? I don't like it. He could be a Slytherin spy, trying to find out about our new training program. He's in Griffindor said Harry quickly. And the Slytherins don't need a spy, Oliver said George. What makes you say that? said Wood testily. Because they're here in person said George, pointing.

“Look this way, Harry! This way!” he cried shrilly.

“Who’s that?” said Fred.

“No idea,” Harry lied, putting on a spurt of speed that took him as far away as possible from Colin.

“What’s going on?” said Wood, frowning as he skimmed through the air toward them. “Why’s the first year taking pictures? I don’t like it. He could be a Slytherin spy, trying to find out about our new training program.”

“He’s in Gryffindor,” said Harry quickly.

“And the Slytherins don’t need a spy, Oliver,” said George.

“What makes you say that?” said Wood testily.

“Because they’re here in person,” said George, pointing.

Colin

Fred

Harry

Oliver Wood

George