

DIALOGUE

Beginning: “DIALOGUE ,” said-word + person.

“Mr. Wittwer is so intelligent,” stated Suzy.

Split: “DIALOGUE,” said-word + person, “DIALOGUE.”

“Mr. Wittwer,” stated Suzy, “is so intelligent.”

Ending: Person + said-word, “DIALOGUE.”

Suzy stated, “Mr. Wittwer is so intelligent.”

Known: “DIALOGUE.” (No person or said word given; implied.)

“Mr. Wittwer is so intelligent!”

* **Extra:** Any of the above (except one—do you know what it is?) with extra information that describes the scene or the action of talking. It is like an “upgrade”.

“DIALOGUE,” said-word + person as he quickly . . .

While the night closed . . . person + said-word, “DIALOGUE.”

Fact (1) The comma(s) will go between the said-word and the dialogue. The trick is to decide whether it goes inside or outside the quotes.

Fact (2) Beginning: comma goes inside the quote

Split: comma goes inside the quote for beginning and outside for the end section

End: comma goes outside the quote

Extra: based on which one of the above it is; follows the same rule

Fact (3) **Each time that someone talks, there is a new paragraph used. Two people cannot talk in the same paragraph.** [Now, this is mostly true. I have seen some exceptions to this, but very few in my years of teaching.]

Steps to aid students in recognizing:

A) Put quote around what is said aloud

B) Decide whether dialogue is beginning, split, end, or extra

C) Locate the said-word and the dialogue/quotes [the comma will go between]

D) Decide whether the comma goes inside or outside of the quotes [based on which style of dialogue is used]

Quotes do not go around thoughts. *Italicize thoughts.* Only put quotes around a thought if it is said aloud to oneself.

You will NOT have two forms of punctuation at the end of a sentence. Such as a comma in conjunction with a period or exclamation or quotation mark.

“How are you going to do that,?” yelled Susie.

EXTENSION ACTIVITIES

Choose one sentence and show how that one sentence would look in each of the 4 styles.

Have students do the above with a sentence from their own writing or class writing

Take sentences from actual stories, student work, or current writing activity and use them in this lesson.

Have them find examples of all four styles in their reading materials. Write the example, label which of the styles the example is, and cite the example. Comma placement is vital.

Emphasize the placement of quotation marks and commas/end punctuation.

End punctuation goes inside quotes in dialogue

No Promises in the Wind

P.75-76 a special type of Split exists. “Hhhhhhhhhh”—ggggggggggggg—“hhhhhhhhh.”

Multiple people all talking at the same time, yelling usually.

The men all yelled at once, “wwwwwwwwwwwwww” “eeeeeeeeeeeeee” “ggggggggggggggggggg”