

Dialogue Detectives

Spot dialogue that is punctuated the right way.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.L.3.2c "Use commas and quotation marks in dialogue."

NAME _____

DATE _____

CORRECT DIALOGUE

The spoken words are inside quotation marks. A comma separates the spoken words and the speaker tag in a statement.

"Wait for me," called Rosa.

NEEDS FIXING

A comma or quotation mark is missing or in the wrong place. The dialogue needs punctuation before it is correct.

Rosa called "Wait for me."

1 SORT

8 items

Read each sentence, then circle CORRECT or FIX IT.

- | | | |
|--|--|---------------------------------------|
| 1. "I packed my lunch," said Leo. | <input type="button" value="CORRECT"/> | <input type="button" value="FIX IT"/> |
| 2. Ava said "The bus is here." | <input type="button" value="CORRECT"/> | <input type="button" value="FIX IT"/> |
| 3. "We should hurry" said Omar. | <input type="button" value="CORRECT"/> | <input type="button" value="FIX IT"/> |
| 4. Ms. Chen said, "Open to page ten." | <input type="button" value="CORRECT"/> | <input type="button" value="FIX IT"/> |
| 5. My dog learned a trick, said Jada. | <input type="button" value="CORRECT"/> | <input type="button" value="FIX IT"/> |
| 6. "I will water the plants," said Theo. | <input type="button" value="CORRECT"/> | <input type="button" value="FIX IT"/> |
| 7. Grandpa said, "I baked muffins. | <input type="button" value="CORRECT"/> | <input type="button" value="FIX IT"/> |
| 8. "It is almost noon," said Dad. | <input type="button" value="CORRECT"/> | <input type="button" value="FIX IT"/> |

2 PROVE IT Explain your thinking

Pick two items from Part 1. For each one, tell how you knew where it belonged.

ITEM # _____ HOW I KNEW _____

ITEM # _____ HOW I KNEW _____

3 MAKE YOUR OWN One of each

Write one new CORRECT dialogue sentence and one new FIX IT dialogue sentence.

CORRECT _____

FIX IT _____

CHALLENGE

Fix this dialogue sentence by adding all needed commas and quotation marks: Ravi said We won the game.

PART 1 • SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	"I packed my lunch," said Leo.	CORRECT	Quotation marks surround the spoken words, and the comma comes before the closing quotation mark.
2	Ava said "The bus is here."	FIX IT	A comma is needed after said before the opening quotation mark.
3	"We should hurry" said Omar.	FIX IT	A comma is needed after hurry before the closing quotation mark.
4	Ms. Chen said, "Open to page ten."	CORRECT	The comma comes before the opening quotation mark, and the spoken words are in quotation marks.
5	My dog learned a trick, said Jada.	FIX IT	The spoken words need quotation marks.
6	"I will water the plants," said Theo.	CORRECT	Quotation marks surround the spoken words, and the comma is placed correctly.
7	Grandpa said, "I baked muffins.	FIX IT	The closing quotation mark is missing.
8	"It is almost noon," said Dad.	CORRECT	Quotation marks surround the spoken words, and the comma is placed correctly.

PART 2 • PROVE IT

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item.

PART 3 • MAKE YOUR OWN (SAMPLE ANSWERS)

- **CORRECT:** "I found my gloves," said Mia.
- **FIX IT:** Mia said "I found my gloves."

Challenge: Ravi said, "We won the game."

Correct Dialogue: 1, 4, 6, and 8. Items 2 and 3 are missing commas, item 5 is missing quotation marks, and item 7 is missing a closing quotation mark.