

Dialogue Detectives

Sort sentences that use dialogue marks correctly.

4.L.GC.1.30 "Mechanics: Recognize and use conventional capitalization, quotation marks, and commas to indicate exact words and dialogue. (Master)"

NAME _____

DATE _____

READY TO READ

A sentence is READY when the speaker's exact words begin with a capital letter, are inside quotation marks, and use commas or end marks in the right places.

Zora shouted, "Bring helmets."

NEEDS A FIX

A sentence needs a FIX when a capital letter, quotation mark, comma, or end mark is missing or in the wrong place.

zora shouted "Bring helmets."

1 SORT _____ 8 items

Circle READY or FIX for each sentence, then choose two items and explain what makes each one READY or in need of a FIX.

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. "I found my mitten," Leo said. | <input type="button" value="READY"/> | <input type="button" value="FIX"/> |
| 2. sara whispered, "Close the gate." | <input type="button" value="READY"/> | <input type="button" value="FIX"/> |
| 3. "Can we paint later"? asked Dad. | <input type="button" value="READY"/> | <input type="button" value="FIX"/> |
| 4. Nia asked, "Where is my notebook?" | <input type="button" value="READY"/> | <input type="button" value="FIX"/> |
| 5. "Wait for me!" called Ben. | <input type="button" value="READY"/> | <input type="button" value="FIX"/> |
| 6. "The soup is hot," Mom said. | <input type="button" value="READY"/> | <input type="button" value="FIX"/> |
| 7. Omar said, "I packed lunch". | <input type="button" value="READY"/> | <input type="button" value="FIX"/> |
| 8. "Do not splash," Priya said. | <input type="button" value="READY"/> | <input type="button" value="FIX"/> |

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 READY dialogue sentence and one new dialogue sentence that needs a FIX.

READY

FIX

CHALLENGE

Write a two-line dialogue between two speakers. Put each speaker on a new line and use capital letters, quotation marks, commas, and end marks correctly.

PART 1 • SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	"I found my mitten," Leo said.	READY	The exact words are capitalized, enclosed in quotation marks, and followed by a comma before the dialogue tag.
2	sara whispered, "Close the gate."	FIX	The speaker's name, Sara, needs a capital letter.
3	"Can we paint later"? asked Dad.	FIX	The question mark belongs inside the closing quotation mark, and asked should be lowercase after the quoted question.
4	Nia asked, "Where is my notebook?"	READY	The dialogue begins with a capital letter and uses quotation marks and a question mark correctly.
5	"Wait for me!" called Ben.	READY	The exact words have a capital letter, quotation marks, and the exclamation mark inside the closing quotation mark.
6	"The soup is hot," Mom said.	READY	The comma is inside the quotation marks before the dialogue tag.
7	Omar said, "I packed lunch".	FIX	The period belongs inside the closing quotation mark.
8	"Do not splash," Priya said.	READY	The exact words are capitalized, enclosed in quotation marks, and followed by a comma before the dialogue tag.

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)

- **READY:** "Please turn down the music," Ava said.
- **FIX:** "please turn down the music" Ava said.

Challenge: "Could you carry this box?" Elena asked. "Yes, I can help," Marcus replied.

For Part 2, accept any two items if the student correctly names a capitalization, quotation mark, comma, or end-mark detail. For Part 3, accept varied responses that clearly match the selected category.