Dialogue Detectives

Sort dialogue sentences by their punctuation and capitalization.

5.L.GC.1.47 "Mechanics: Use conventional capitalization, quotation marks, commas, end punctuation, and attributions to indicate exact words and lines of dialogue. (Introduce)"

NAME _____ DATE _____

CORRECT

This dialogue uses capital letters, quotation marks, commas, end punctuation, and an attribution correctly.

Dr. Vega announced, "Clouds cover Jupiter."

REVISE

This dialogue has two or more marks to fix, such as a missing comma, capital letter, or end mark.

Coach Bell shouted "hurry, players"

1 SORT

8 items

Circle CORRECT or REVISE for each sentence, then choose two items and explain the clues that show your choice.

1.	"Please close the gate," said Nora.	CORRECT REVISE
2.	"we should save a seat" said Priya.	CORRECT REVISE
3.	Malik asked "can we use the map?"	CORRECT REVISE
4.	"The shells are smooth," explained Ms. Ortiz.	CORRECT REVISE
5.	Tomas said, "My cousin baked bread."	CORRECT REVISE
6.	Keira asked "did you feed the fish"?	CORRECT REVISE
7.	"Watch the kite," called Owen.	CORRECT REVISE
8.	"I found the trail," said Mr. Lewis.	CORRECT REVISE

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 dialogue sentence that needs REVISION.

CORRECT _____

REVISE _____

CHALLENGE

Choose one REVISE item. Rewrite it correctly, then name two changes you made.

ANSWER KEY

Dialogue Detectives

GRADE 5 · 5.L.GC.1.47

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	“Please close the gate,” said Nora.	**CORRECT**	The spoken words are capitalized and quoted, and the comma comes before the closing quotation mark.
2	“we should save a seat” said Priya.	**REVISE**	The first word of the quotation needs a capital letter, and a comma is needed after seat inside the quotation marks.
3	Malik asked “can we use the map?”	**REVISE**	A comma is needed after asked, and can needs a capital letter.
4	“The shells are smooth,” explained Ms. Ortiz.	**CORRECT**	The quotation is capitalized and punctuated correctly, and the attribution is clear.
5	Tomas said, “My cousin baked bread.”	**CORRECT**	The attribution has a comma before the quotation, and the period is inside the closing quotation mark.
6	Keira asked “did you feed the fish”?	**REVISE**	A comma is needed after asked, did needs a capital letter, and the question mark belongs inside the quotation marks.
7	“Watch the kite,” called Owen.	**CORRECT**	The comma is correctly placed before the closing quotation mark, and the attribution is clear.
8	“I found the trail,” said Mr. Lewis.	**CORRECT**	The dialogue is capitalized, quoted, and punctuated correctly, including Mr.

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**: “Our team won the game!” cheered Lila.
- **REVISE**: “where are the markers” asked Ben.

Challenge: “We should save a seat,” said Priya. I capitalized We and added a comma after seat inside the quotation marks.

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item. In Part 2, accept explanations that accurately name correct marks or identify errors in the selected sentences.