Dialogue Detectives

Sort polished dialogue from dialogue that needs revision.

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

NAME _____ DATE _____

CORRECT DIALOGUE

The exact spoken words have quotation marks, a capital letter, and correct ending punctuation. A statement followed by an attribution uses a comma inside the closing quotation mark.

"Fireflies shimmer tonight," observed Ms. Quill.

REVISE IT

At least one dialogue mark is missing or misplaced. Check the capital letter, quotation marks, comma, end punctuation, and attribution.

"fireflies shimmer tonight," observed Ms. Quill.

1 SORT

8 items

For each line, circle CORRECT or REVISE, then choose two lines and explain which marks helped you decide.

1.	Mr. Bell said, "The gates open at noon."	CORRECT REVISE
2.	"can we borrow the telescope?" asked Priya.	CORRECT REVISE
3.	"Hold the rope" said Eli.	CORRECT REVISE
4.	"Pack your map," said Omar.	CORRECT REVISE
5.	"Where is the trail?" asked Lena.	CORRECT REVISE
6.	"Watch out!" called Rosa.	CORRECT REVISE
7.	I found a shell," Mateo said.	CORRECT REVISE
8.	Devon said, "We should leave now."	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 dialogue line for CORRECT and one new dialogue line for REVISE.

CORRECT _____

REVISE _____

CHALLENGE

Rewrite this dialogue correctly, then add an attribution: “will you join the game”

ANSWER KEY

Dialogue Detectives

GRADE 6 · 6.L.GC.1.47

PART 1 · SORT

#	ITEM	CATEGORY	WHY
1	Mr. Bell said, “The gates open at noon.”	**CORRECT**	The attribution comes first and uses a comma before the quoted sentence.
2	“can we borrow the telescope?” asked Priya.	**REVISE**	The first word of the spoken sentence should begin with a capital letter.
3	“Hold the rope” said Eli.	**REVISE**	A comma is needed before the attribution, inside the quotation marks.
4	“Pack your map,” said Omar.	**CORRECT**	The statement has a capital letter, quotation marks, and a comma before the attribution.
5	“Where is the trail?” asked Lena.	**CORRECT**	The question mark is inside the quotation marks, followed by the attribution.
6	“Watch out!” called Rosa.	**CORRECT**	The exclamation mark is inside the quotation marks, followed by the attribution.
7	I found a shell,” Mateo said.	**REVISE**	The opening quotation mark is missing.
8	Devon said, “We should leave now.”	**CORRECT**	The attribution uses a comma before the quoted statement, which ends with a period inside the quotation marks.

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**: “Rain is starting,” warned Jules.
- **REVISE**: “please close the window,” said Mina.

Challenge: “Will you join the game?” asked Noah.

Accept any explanation that names the deciding feature from the rule box for the chosen item. For Prove It, students should name a specific feature, such as a capital letter, quotation mark, comma, end mark, or attribution. Accept different correct explanations for the two lines they choose.