



Commas in Dialogue

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5
Invitation to Notice	Invitation to Compare, Contrast, and Imitate	Invitation to Revise	Invitation to Edit	Invitation to Write (Assessment)
<p>“Man, hurry up and get dressed,” I called. “Mama said you ain’t dressing to meet the President.” “See there,” he said, pointing at the stain. “You did that.” – Mildred D. Taylor, <i>Song of the Trees</i></p> <p>Rikki-tikki replied, “Well. Do you think you should eat baby birds?” Nag then played a trick on Rikki-tikki. “Let’s talk,” he said. “If you eat eggs, why shouldn’t I eat birds?” – Rudyard Kipling, <i>Rikki Tikki Tavi</i></p> <p>Points of Emphasis:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A comma is used when a character introduces a line of dialogue. • *A comma is placed at the end of the line of dialogue when the character speaking is identified after it. 	<p>Place the appropriate punctuation in the blanks.</p> <p>“I don’t know how to tell you this ___” he said ___ “but the Caldwell Parish Country Club is reserved for whites only ___” Murphy paused and looked at Dondre.</p> <p>Example: “I don’t know how to tell you this,” he said, “but the Caldwell Parish Country Club is reserved for whites only.” Murphy paused and looked at Dondre.</p> <p>Rikkie-tikki replied ___ “Well. Do you think you should eat baby birds?” Nag then played a trick on Rikki-tikki. “Let’s talk ___” he said.</p> <p>Example: Rikkie-tikki replied, “Well. Do you think you should eat baby birds?” Nag then played a trick on Rikki-tikki. “Let’s talk,” he said.</p>	<p>Revise the following parts of a dialogue sentence into three complete lines of dialogue. Change the placement of who is speaking three times: Introduction of the dialogue, after the dialogue, and interruption of the dialogue. Use the appropriate punctuation.</p> <p>Quote: “Before the Civil War the Mason-Dixon line was originally the boundary between Maryland and Pennsylvania.”</p> <p>Identifier: she explained</p> <p>Examples: She explained, “Before the Civil War the Mason-Dixon line was originally the boundary between Maryland and Pennsylvania.” “Before the Civil War the Mason-Dixon line was originally the boundary between Maryland and Pennsylvania,” she explained. “Before the Civil War,” she explained, “the Mason-Dixon line was originally the boundary between Maryland and Pennsylvania.”</p>	<p>What’s wrong?</p> <p>“Let’s talk,” he said. “If you eat eggs, why shouldn’t I eat birds?”</p> <p>“Let’s talk.” he said. “If you eat eggs, why shouldn’t I eat birds?” (should be comma after talk)</p> <p>“Lets talk,” he said. “If you eat eggs, why shouldn’t I eat birds?” (Lets should be Let’s contraction)</p> <p>“Let’s talk,” he said. “If you eaten eggs, why shouldn’t I eat birds?” (eaten should be eat)</p> <p>“Let’s talk,” he said. “If you eat eggs, Why shouldn’t I eat birds?” (Why should not be capitalized)</p>	<p>Choose two non-human objects that are opposite or different from each other: fork-spoon, pen-pencil, dog-cat, desk-chair, moon-sun, etc.</p> <p>Write at least five sentences of dialogue between the two objects placing your character identifiers at different points of the sentences: before, middle, and after.</p> <p>Use appropriate comma placement.</p>



- A comma is used when there is a break in the dialogue and the character speaking is identified in between.
- A comma is NOT used when there is no speaker identified.
- When a comma is used in dialogue, it is placed inside the quotation marks.

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