

SPaG Dialogue

When you write a conversation, there are certain rules you must follow.

Rule One: You must use speech marks around the words that have been spoken. It doesn't matter if you use " or ', as long as you use the same one all the way through.

"Mark? Do you want some tea?" his dad called again.

Rule Two: Begin a new line for each different speaker.

"Mark? Do you want some tea?" his dad called again.

"No," he shouted, trying to make his voice sound sad.

Rule Three: There must always be a punctuation mark (a comma, full stop, exclamation mark or question mark) before you close your inverted commas.

"Mark? Do you want some tea?" his dad called again.

"No," he shouted, trying to make his voice sound sad.

Rule Four: The word after the inverted commas – provided you haven't used a full stop before them – is always a small letter (unless it's a name).

"Mark? Do you want some tea?" his dad called again

"No," said Mark.



Challenge 1: Correct the dialogue below.

Come over here my dad said no I don't want to you need to come here now my dad said loudly.

Challenge 2: Write your own conversation using the above rules. Tick them off as you use them.

SPaG Dialogue - Answers

Challenge 1: Correct the dialogue.

Come over here my dad said no I don't want to you need to come here now my dad said loudly.

"Come over here," my dad said.

"No, I don't want to."

"You need to come here now," my dad said loudly.

Challenge 2: Own conversation.

"Stop what you're doing and put your hands up!" shouted the police officer.

"It's not what you think," I said, slowly turning round.

"Stop right now!" said the officer. "Or I'll shoot."

"No. I don't think you will," I replied.



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"Come over here," my dad said.

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"It's not what you think," I said, slowly turning round.

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