

*Important Concepts . . .*

# Preview Review



*Language Arts*

*Grade 6*

*W3 - Lesson 3: Writing Dialogue*

## Important Concepts of Grade 6 Language Arts

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W1 - Lesson 2 ..... Sentence Structure 2  
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### W3 - Quiz

## Materials Required

### Textbooks

*Cornerstones Anthologies  
6A and 6B*

Language Arts Grade 6  
Version 5  
Preview/Review W3 - Lesson 3

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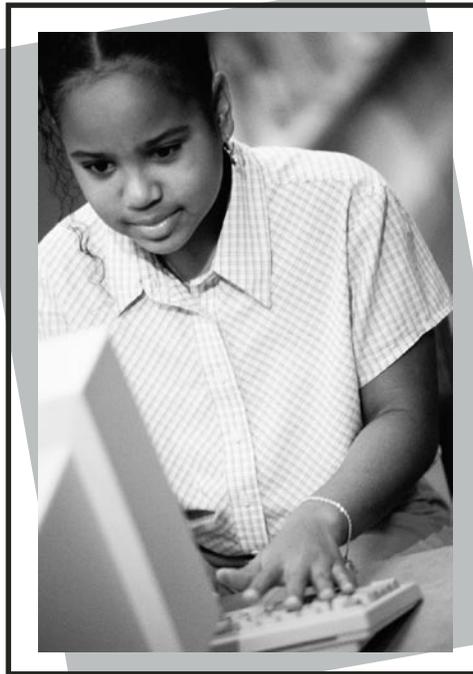
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# Preview/Review Concepts for Grade Six Language Arts



***W3 - Lesson 3:  
Writing Dialogue***

# OBJECTIVES

By the end of this lesson, you should

- recognize and write dialogue
- write direct quotations with correct punctuation and capitalization

## GLOSSARY

**dialogue** - conversation between characters in a story

**direct quotation** - the exact words spoken by a person

**divided quotation** - a quotation in which the spoken words are broken into two parts separated by the explaining words

**explaining words** - words outside quotation marks that tell who is speaking

**quotation marks** - punctuation marks used to show the beginning and end of a direct quotation

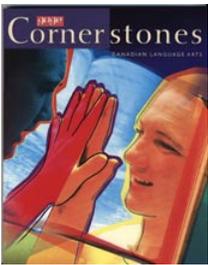
## W3 - Lesson 3: Writing Dialogue

### “What Did You Say?”

The main goal of writing is communication. Any tool you can use to make that communication clearer is valuable. Writing dialogue (conversation) properly helps you tell your story more accurately and interestingly, and it helps the reader understand your characters.

This lesson will help you

- write direct quotations
- write dialogue in correct paragraphs



The quotation examples below are from the story “The Fight” in *Cornerstones 6a*, pages 94 to 99. This is an excellent story that uses a lot of dialogue. Read far enough in the story to find a few examples of dialogue. Then return here.

### How Do You Recognize Dialogue?

**Quotation marks** go before and after a person’s exact words. These exact words are called **direct quotations**.

Examples: “What’s up, Ricky? You’re nearly as quiet as Joel tonight.”  
 “Nothing,” I said.

Many quotations contain words outside the quotation marks to tell you who is speaking. These are called the **explaining words**.

Examples: “OK, Ricky, spill the beans,” **Dad said**. (**Dad** is the speaker.)  
 To his friends, **he said**, “Let’s go, guys.” (**He** is the speaker.)

Use the following rules when writing quotations.

- Capitalize the first word in a direct quotation.

Example: “You know I don’t believe in fighting,” he said.

- Periods, exclamation marks, and question marks are placed inside the quotation marks because they are part of the speaker’s sentences.

Examples: “And didn’t David kill Goliath?”  
I said, “No, I’m not a chicken.”

- When the explaining words come before the direct quotation, place a comma before the quotation marks to separate the speaker from the spoken words.

Example: I said, “I want you to leave my brother alone.”

- If the explaining words come after the direct quotation, place a comma or other punctuation inside the quotation marks.

Examples: “Great,” I said.  
“Are you crazy?” he asked.

A. Rewrite the following sentences placing quotation marks, capital letters, and punctuation where needed.

1. tim asked did you ever play football

\_\_\_\_\_

2. morris said I want to play another game

\_\_\_\_\_



3. when do we start on our trip to the mountains asked Stan

---

---

4. Steve commanded come to the house exactly at midnight

---

---

5. when are you moving I asked

---

6. Jenny are you going to clean your room today asked mom

---

---

7. jenny replied yes if I have the time later

---

8. Bryan exclaimed clean my room too

---

9. I want both of you to do your chores before you go out to play said dad

---

---

10. we will replied the children

---

B. Write three quotation sentences below. Use correct quotation marks, punctuation, and capital letters.

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Divided Quotations

When the explaining words divide the direct quotation into two parts, put quotation marks around each part.

Examples: “Great,” I said, “let’s go on a holiday.”  
“One day,” said Dad, “we will all go to Disneyland.”

Notice that the first part of the direct quotation is followed by a comma inside the quotation marks.

A comma follows the explaining words, and the second part of the direct quotation is not capitalized.

The second part of the direct quotation is followed by a punctuation mark inside the quotation marks.

C. Rewrite the following sentences placing quotation marks, capital letters, and punctuation where needed.

1. okay replied Chris bring the car around

---

2. i want to know said Bill if everyone is going at the same time

---

---

3. yes answered Lila the whole family is going together

---

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4. the team stated Jim has never played this well before

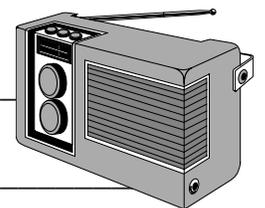
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5. would you please asked Jamie turn the radio down

---

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6. i have never said Laurie heard a story about a ghost

---

7. my sister explained Sadie bought those baskets in Mexico

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---

8. i'm going to plant the garden said Doris as soon as I get home from holidays

---

---

9. joseph asked Ryan do you want to go skateboarding tonight

---

---

10. why said John do we have to do homework every night

---

---

D. Write three sentences with divided quotations. Use correct quotation marks, punctuation, and capital letters.

1. \_\_\_\_\_

---

2. \_\_\_\_\_

---

3. \_\_\_\_\_

---

## Dialogue Format

Writing stories is always challenging. Writing stories using dialogue is even more challenging. Dialogue can develop characters, establish tone or mood, and help the story move along. But you must set it up properly so the reader can follow it easily. When there are two or more speakers, how does the reader know who is speaking or when the speaker changes?

You should insert speakers' names occasionally to help the reader follow the speakers. Changes are also shown through the use of paragraphs. The general rule is to **start a new paragraph for each change of speaker**. The new paragraph is indented.

Example:

The family was getting ready to leave for their holiday to the mountains. Everyone was excited and eager.

“Come on. Hurry up,” he said.

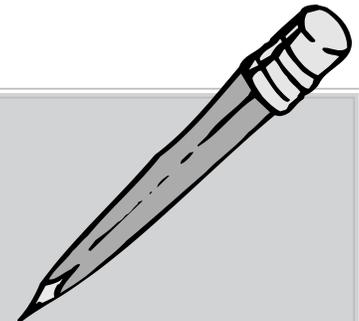
“Okay, I’m coming!” she yelled back.

“Fine,” he replied, “I’ll be waiting in the car.”

“You’re always in such a hurry,” she sighed.

George snorted, “You’re the one who wanted to get there early.”

They piled into the car and waited for Dad to check his map. It looked like the trip was off to a good start.



The following passage has been rewritten below with correct paragraphing, quotation marks, capital letters, and punctuation.

One of Aesop's Fables is called *The Fox and the Crow*. It tells about a crow that stole a piece of cheese and then flew to a branch to eat it. The fox sat under the tree and thought about eating the cheese. The fox said crow I compliment you on your size and beauty but you would be the queen of all birds if you could talk caw exclaimed the crow and dropped the cheese thank you said the fox for not having any common sense you tricked me complained the crow the wise fox promptly ate the cheese while the crow sat in the branch above thinking and watching.

**Corrected passage:**

One of Aesop's Fables is called *The Fox and the Crow*. It tells about a crow that stole a piece of cheese, and then flew to a branch to eat it. The fox sat under the tree and thought about eating the cheese.

The fox said, "Crow, I compliment you on your size and beauty, but you would be the queen of all birds if you could talk."

"Caw!" exclaimed the crow and dropped the cheese.

"Thank you," said the fox, "for not having any common sense."

"You tricked me," complained the crow.

The wise fox promptly ate the cheese while the crow sat in the branch above, thinking and watching.









