



ELA Virtual Learning

4th Grade Grammar

Punctuating Dialogue

April 9, 2020



4th Grade Grammar

Lesson: 04/09/2020

Learning Target:

Students will punctuate dialogue between two or more characters.

Background: This is a review lesson

- Students learn to use dialogue with quotation marks in 2nd grade
- Students learn to use commas and quotation marks in dialogue in 3rd grade
- Students learn to punctuate dialogue with two or more characters in 4th grade

Let's Get Started:

Watch Videos:

1. [Quotations Song](#)
2. [Writing Dialogue](#)



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What do you notice?



The seagull asked, "Why don't we eat only foods that begin with the letter a tonight?"

The fish answered, "Absolutely! Let's have avocado salad, artichokes, and acorn squash."

"We can drink apricot juice," added the gull.

"How about apples for dessert?" asked the fish.



dreamstime.com

Using Dialogue

You may have noticed three different types of punctuation in the sentences. Below, you will find the three main types of dialogue:

Statement: "We could have almonds," the fish said.

Question: "What about asparagus?" asked the gull.

Exclamation: "Angleworms are tasty!" cried the fish.

Yesterday, we looked at dialogue with statements. Today, we will focus on practicing punctuating dialogue with questions.

Practice #1:

Where does question mark go?

Think back to the video.

- Commas separate the speaker tag from dialogue.
- The question mark should separate the question spoken from the speaker tag.

She asked what is your favorite color

- a) “She asked, What is your favorite color?”
- b) She asked “What is your favorite color?”
- c) She asked, “What is your favorite color?”

Practice #1:

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- c) She asked, “What is your favorite color?”



B is correct because the quotation marks are around the spoken words and the question mark comes before the last quotation mark.

Practice #2:

Where does the comma go?

Think back to the video.

- Commas separate the speaker tag from dialogue.
- The question mark should separate the question spoken from the speaker tag.

What time do we get the new bed asked Gary.

- a) “What time do we get the new bed” asked Gary.
- b) “What time do we get the new bed, asked” Gary.
- c) “What time do we get the new bed?” asked Gary.

Practice #2:

Where does the comma go?

Think back to the video.

- Commas separate the speaker tag from dialogue.
- The question mark should separate the question spoken from the speaker tag.

What time do we get the new bed asked Gary.

- a) “What time do we get the new bed” asked Gary.
- b) “What time do we get the new bed, asked” Gary.
- c) “What time do we get the new bed?” asked Gary.



C is correct because the quotation marks are around the spoken words and the question mark comes before the last quotation mark.

Practice #3:

Where does the correct punctuation go?

Think back to the video.

- The comma separates the spoken words from the dialogue tag.
- Quotation marks go around spoken words

Which month has 28 days asked Jay.

- a) “Which month has 28 days?” asked Jay.
- b) “Which month has 28 days,” asked Jay.
- c) “Which month has 28 days? asked Jay?”



A is correct because the quotation marks are around the spoken words and the question mark comes before the last quotation mark.

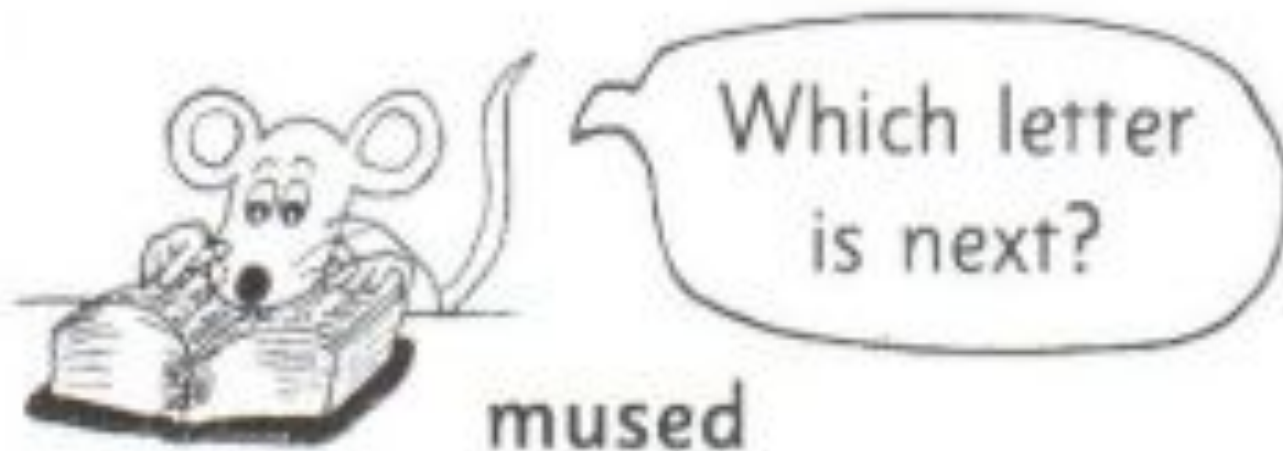
Practice on your own:

On paper, write the words in the speech bubble as a complete sentence. Remember to explain who is speaking and add correct punctuation.



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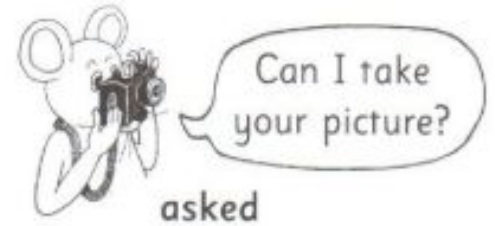
On paper, write the words in the speech bubble as a complete sentence. Remember to explain who is speaking and add correct punctuation.



Check your work:

Does yours look similar to this?

"Can I take your picture?" the mouse asked.



The mouse mused, "Which letter is next?"



"When will we get there?" the mouse wondered.

Extra Practice:

Click on the picture below to create a book cover for a made up book or a book of your choice. Add dialogue to introduce the characters in the story, like below:

The image shows a web application titled "Book Cover Creator" with a green background and a purple border. The main title "Book Cover Creator" is in large, bold, yellow letters. Below the title is a "Tool Box" containing several options:

- Templates:** A section with four boxes: "Title Subtitle", "Title Text", "Title" (with a yellow background), and "All text" (with a yellow background).
- Text Tools**
- Background Tools**
- Drawing Tools**

The main workspace is a large white area with a purple border. It contains the following text:

The Mysterious Day off

"What do you think we should do?" asked Sarah. Jeff paused. He wasn't sure, but he knew they needed to make the best of their mysterious day off.

"I think we should go on an adventure," he said slowly. This adventure would take them on a journey they would never forget.

On the right side of the workspace, there is a vertical purple bar with the text "Front Cover" at the top.

Even More Practice:

Create a fairy tale online using dialogue to make the story more exciting! Make sure you use correct punctuation.



Self Check:

Go tell someone in your home your answers.



1. Was this lesson?

- easy,
- just right
- hard

2. How can punctuating a dialogue between characters help you convey what you want to say?