



# ELA Virtual Learning

# **Creative Writing**

April 16, 2020



# Creative Writing

## Lesson: Thurs., April 16

**Objective/Learning Target:** Students will demonstrate understanding of the conventions of dialogue in fiction.



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**Read:** [“Talk the Walk,”](#) an analysis of Hemingway’s dialogue



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**Reflect:** After reading [“Talk the Walk,”](#) write in your journal for several minutes about what you learned. What does L’Heureux say about how Hemingway’s dialogue works? What is the difference between dialogue and “conversation”?

## What does good dialogue do?

- reveals / delineates character
- creates conflict / tension
- moves the story forward
- creates a sense of authenticity
  - *even though that authenticity is fabricated!*



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**Practice:** Now, go back to a story you've written and pull a few exchanges of dialogue. Do the lines delineate the characters (i.e. make them distinct from each other)? Is what they're saying moving the story forward and creating tension? Work for a moment on those lines to satisfy the characteristics L'Heureux suggests regarding dialogue.



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**Practice:** Take the following passage and replace each of the emotions with action and dialogue to *show* what is *told*.

*I was happy. My girlfriend was sad. I was curious. She became annoyed. I was confused. She became angry. I became angry. She became terrifying. I was scared. I am content now.*

None of these adjectives--annoyed, confused, etc.--can be used in your version, but we should be able to comprehend the characters feel this way through action and dialogue.

## Model

*I was happy. My girlfriend was sad. I was curious. She became annoyed. I was confused. She became angry. I became angry. She became terrifying. I was scared. I am content now.*

Sun flitted through the branches overhead where the birds were singing from their nests. Megan slouched against the trunk, her head bowed so that her hanging hair obscured her face.

“What do you think they’re saying?” I asked.

“How should I know?” she muttered.





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### **Additional Resources/Practice:**

[“The End of Something”](#) by Ernest Hemingway

[How to Format Dialogue in Fiction](#)