

Fast 5

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I had a hard boiled egg for breakfast.

I have a four year old brother.

Forty seven children were on the playground.

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Can I convey character through dialogue?

To convey character through dialogue means that as a reader we learn more about the character from what they say: we can infer how they are feeling.

- *“What was that noise?” gasped James as he crept up the stairs. “It came from my bedroom.”*
- **What can we tell about the character from this dialogue?**

“I’m c-c-coming,” wept Billy. “You can count on me,” he said while wiping his nose with a tissue.

- **What can we tell about the character from this dialogue?**

Think of an emotion that could be related to a suspense story.

Fear, anxiety, bravery etc.

How could you show that a character is feeling that emotion by what they SAY as well as what they DO?

Write a line of dialogue for a character for two emotions that you have thought of.

Try to *SHOW* your reader how the character is feeling without *TELLING* them.

Write a conversation between two characters whose house has started to fall apart during a storm

- Use a variety of contractions
- Have one character speak formally and another informally
- Write parts of a larger narrative around the conversation

Dialogue rules

- Use inverted commas for direct speech.
- Use the correct commas, question marks and exclamation marks to end.
- Put each new speaker on a new line.
- Use a variety of words instead of said.
- Include adverbs to describe how words are said.
- Use subordinating conjunctions to explain what was happening as they spoke (as, while)