

Summer 2 Week 7 English Lesson 4

Can I add narrative to dialogue?

Fast Five - Add the correct punctuation for the following dialogue (answers on the next slide)

1. We had a wonderful half term, “ said Ahmed.
2. “What did you do ” asked Gloria.
3. “Well, it did not rain. We could play outside, said Ahmed.
4. “you are so lucky to have a garden,” replied Gloria.
5. “The best thing was camping in our garden cheered Ahmed.

Fast five - Answers

1. “We had a wonderful half term, “ said Ahmed.
2. “What did you do?” asked Gloria.
3. “Well, it did not rain. We could play outside,” said Ahmed.
4. “You are so lucky to have a garden,” replied Gloria.
5. “The best thing was camping in our garden!” cheered Ahmed.

We have already looked at using dialogue. Today we are going to add narrative to the dialogue.

What does this mean?

Many of you love using dialogue but, when you write a story, you don't just use dialogue. You need to add the narrative part as well. It tells the reader more about what is happening in the story. You need to learn to use both dialogue and narrative.

Look at the next slide.

Example of just dialogue

“It is so peaceful here. All I can hear is the sound of birds and the trickling of the stream,” commented Gina.

“Does it not feel strange to you though?” replied Sumayah. “I mean, there are no people. I can’t even hear cars and we are next to a major road.”

“That is the way it should be!” said Gina.

Example of dialogue and narrative

Gina and Sumayah were lying on a large rock next to a winding stream. They were watching the clouds drift by; they were trying to guess what shapes they were. “It is so peaceful here. All I can hear is the sound of birds and the trickling of the stream,” commented Gina.

“Does it not feel strange to you though?” replied Sumayah. “I mean, there are no people. I can’t even hear cars and we are next to a major road.” It was unusual that there were no cars. The sky was also quiet. No aeroplanes or vapour trails could be seen!

Gina looked at Sumayah with a slight confused expression. “That is the way it should be!” she said.

Now you have a go. Can you add narrative to the following dialogue?

“I love being outdoors!” exclaimed Jill.

“Me too!” agreed Jack.

“Be careful with that bucket Jack,” warned Jill.

“Oh no! I dropped everything!” cried Jack.

This is what I did:

Jack and Jill went up the hill to fetch a bucket of water. “I love being outdoors!” exclaimed Jill.

“Me too!” agreed Jack. They looked at each other and decided to race up the hill towards the well. Jack was fast, but Jill was even faster. When they got to the well, they filled the bucket and decided to race down the hill again. Jack wanted to win this time.

“Be careful with that bucket Jack,” warned Jill. Just as she said that, Jack tripped. Everything fell and they tumbled down the hill.

“Oh no! I dropped everything!” cried Jack. Jack was lucky to get away with only a spilt bucket of water!

Activities

Red: Add at least 5 sentences to the dialogue.

Yellow: Add at least one sentence to each section of dialogue.

Green: Write a paragraph which includes dialogue and narrative.