



G.D. GOENKA PUBLIC SCHOOL, SRINAGAR

Subject: English

Aspect: Writing Skills

Topic: Dialogue Writing

Date: 12-08-2021

Name:

Grade/Sec.: VII.....

Learning Objectives:

Upon completion of this module, students will be able to:

- define dialogue.
- discuss appropriate usage of dialogue in writing.
- list rules to use when punctuating dialogue.

What is dialogue writing? Why to write a good dialogue?



- Dialogue is a conversation between two or more people.
- Dialogue is essential to fiction writing.
- Dialogue brings characters to life and adds interest.
- Dialogue must do more than just duplicate real speech.
- Writing dialogue consists of the most exciting, most interesting, most emotional, and most dramatic words.

Fundamentals of Dialogue writing:

- A dialogue is a conversation between two or more people.
- It is a literary technique in which writers employ two or more characters to be engaged in a conversation with each other.
- It forms the basis for any literary work and makes it enjoyable and lively.
- A dialogue enables an exchange of ideas or opinions and empowers the speaker and the listener.
- It facilitates in the resolution of issues and breaks the ice between unfamiliar people.
- It allows for a powerful expression of feelings and adds humour.
- While writing a dialogue, one must always use appropriate language and short and simple sentences.
- There must be continuity in the ideas of the dialogue and the right punctuation should be used to express the mood and tone of the dialogue.
- Also, a dialogue should suit the character of the speaker.

Format of a Dialogue

A dialogue does not have any distinct format. However, some rules need to be followed to avoid confusion while pairing a statement with its speaker.

When the names of speakers are not mentioned, the dialogues should be written within quotation marks.

Examples:

- "I have to see my doctor today."
- "What time is your flight?"

In such cases, attributions like 'he said', 'she replied' etc. should also be included.

Examples:

- "I do not work there anymore," he said.

An attribution, when used at the beginning of a sentence, should always be followed by a comma (,).

Examples:

- She said, "This is the dress I have been looking for."

When names of the speakers are included, they should be followed by a colon mark (:).

Examples:

- Rita: How may I help you?
- Mr Rao: Could you tell me the way to the boardroom?

Every time the speaker changes, a new line should be used.

Examples:

- Mother: What time will you be back?
- Sarika: The class will get over by 4, so I should be home by 4.30 pm.
- Mother: I may not be home when you come, but I will make some snacks for you before leaving.

N.B.: Samples will be shared in the next lesson.