Dialogue is conversation between characters

dialogue must flow, not be choppy, sound realistic, and provide action

dialogue tags are used as the shorties of the dialogue elements: the 'he saids,' and 'she saids'

be careful not to overuse dialogue tags

descriptive beats are actions a character may take before, during, or after dialogue to let the reader know whether the character is angry, sad, scared, etc.

can be described as stage directions

dialect can be drawn from an existing dialect, or you can create your own

messed up sentences (strange or bad syntax) are one way a character can develop through dialect

proper use of punctuation is very important

slang can make or break an author

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periods reflect the end of a sentence

commas are used to separate clauses or a list of items within a sentence

exclamation points are to be used sparingly and are very rarely used in narrative

quotation marks are the standard punctuation to let your readers know that someone is speaking

question marks come at the end of a question but are not always necessary in certain cases

single quotation marks are used to: show possession, to shorten two words into one, used at the end of a thought within the dialogue, and used around dialogue within dialogue

Dialogue