

GOOD DIALOGUE

STORY: _____

SCENE: _____

POV: _____

	CHARACTER: _____	CHARACTER: _____	CHARACTER: _____
WHAT DO THEY NEED TO COMMUNICATE?	<input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____	<input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____	<input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____
WHAT DO THEY NEED TO KEEP SECRET?	<input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____	<input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____	<input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____
HOW DO THEY NEED TO COMMUNICATE IT?	<input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____	<input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____	<input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____ <input type="checkbox"/> _____
ARGUMENTS			
TONE			
EMOTIONS			
BODY LANGUAGE			
SPEECH TAGS			
NOTES			

GOOD DIALOGUE

STORY: _____

GO THROUGH YOUR DIALOGUE LINE BY LINE AND CHECK THAT...

- It's always clear who's speaking.
- The conversation develops the story.
- The conversation develops the characters.
- The conversation introduces new information.
- The conversation achieves its purpose.
- What the character is saying actually makes sense and means something.
- The character speaks for a reason.
- The reader can understand what the character is trying to communicate.
- The characters speak in a way that is appropriate to their role.
- The characters use vocabulary appropriate to their role.
- The character is using the correct form of address.
- You use a variety of speech tags.
- The speech tags make sense, and don't sound contrived.
- The speech tags aren't repetitious.
- The speech tags are appropriate to your chosen point of view.
- The speech tags are in the correct tense.
- The formatting of direct speech is consistent.
- The formatting of indirect speech is consistent.
- The formatting of thoughts is consistent.
- The characters use (appropriate) body language.
- The characters convey subtext through word choice.
- The characters convey subtext through pauses, hesitations and interruptions.
- The characters convey subtext through rhetoric.
- The characters are purposeful in the way they stay on topic, or change the subject.
- The characters hint at things left unsaid.
- The characters convey the full extent of their emotions.
- The characters react to each other's tone and delivery.
- The characters always react to what was said before.
- The arguments are convincing.
- It's clear what each character is arguing.
- The outcome of the argument is clear (even if a consensus is deferred).
- Both the characters and the reader remain aware of the setting of the conversation.
- Both the characters and the reader remain aware of the context of the conversation.
- The characters get equal time to speak, unless there is a reason for an imbalance.
- It's possible to determine the characters' relations to each other through their speech.
- It's clear to the reader if characters misunderstand each other or talk at cross purposes.
- The pace of the conversation is appropriate to the scene.
- The conversation contains something memorable.