DRAMA · READING AND WRITING SCRIPTS · GRADES 2–4

Dialogue or Stage Direction?

Sort each line from a script: is it something a character says, or something the actors do?

Name: _____ **Date:** _____



Dialogue is what a character says out loud. A **stage direction** tells the actors what to do, and it is usually written in ( ). Actors do not say stage directions out loud.

Lines from a script

- Where did I put my hat?
- (looks under the bed)
- (the lights go dark)
- Who turned off the lights?
- (a door creaks open)
- It's only me, Grandpa!
- (everyone laughs)
- Let's have a snack.
- (Sam tiptoes to the door)
- I can't find my shoes!

Write each line under Dialogue or Stage direction.

Dialogue (said out loud)	Stage direction (what the actors do)

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ANSWER KEY · READING AND WRITING SCRIPTS · GRADES 2–4

Answer Key: Dialogue or Stage Direction?

Answers for grown-ups. Where kids write their own ideas, the key shows one example.



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Dialogue (said out loud)	Stage direction (what the actors do)
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Who turned off the lights?	(the lights go dark)
It's only me, Grandpa!	(a door creaks open)
Let's have a snack.	(everyone laughs)
I can't find my shoes!	(Sam tiptoes to the door)

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