

GOOD DIALOGUE:

[Advances Story / Explains Back-Story / Reveals Character / Establishes Mood]

AND/OR

[Think / Laugh / Entertain]

TIPS:

Dialogue should move the story forward – *Avoid the unnecessary* – Dialogue is NOT “conversation” – It is “Life with the dull parts taken out.”

Listen to HOW people talk (People say words like “irregardless” and/or use words incorrectly sometimes).

Less is more - Dialogue does not need to be complete sentences.

Different people talk *differently*. Mix up dialogue and have it come *from* character.

Think about the GENRE, how it informs *how* characters can/do talk and what’s considered “acceptable.”

Remember that the text is not always the subtext of a scene.

Write with your eyes.

Break up dialogue with action.