

**She Said, He Said: The Power of Dialogue**  
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**A short dialogue checklist for your work-in-progress:**

Look at the dialogue in your current work-in-progress.

- Are the speakers clearly denoted by line separation or actions?
- Does your dialogue have a good balance of speech and action?
- Have you reduced your reliance on “ly” words?
- How about dialect? Have you used it in your dialogue? Does it overwhelm the reader?
- Does your dialogue multitask? For example, does it advance the plot, create conflict, and/or build suspense?