

# WRITING A DIALOGUE

- # The sentences of the dialogue must be put between *inverted commas*.
- # The **punctuation** appears **inside** the inverted commas. Ex : "I'm tired," he said.
- # You'd better keep the **subject-verb order** for speech verbs : "Let me finish !" *she exclaimed*.
- # **Start a new line** for each different speaker.
- # You have to give information about the voice, behaviour, and feelings of the characters.
- # When you write the sequel to a text, use the **same tense** (usually the past tense for a narrative) and the **same level of speech** as in the original text.

## SPEECH VERBS

Say		Loud	Silent	React
-surprise	<i>He exclaimed</i>	<i>He shouted</i>	<i>He whispered</i>	<i>He answered</i>
-sadness	<i>He moaned</i>	<i>He barked</i>	<i>He murmured</i>	<i>He replied</i>
-embarrassment	<i>He stammered</i>	<i>He yelled</i>		<i>He agreed</i>
-annoyance	<i>He mumbled</i>	<i>He screamed</i>		<i>He disagreed</i>
-insistence	<i>He insisted</i>			

## VOICE AND EMOTION

Adverbs	Adjectives: voice	Feelings / Emotions
He said .....	He said in a(n) ..... voice	He looked / sounded .....
happily = cheerily = merrily	sharp	surprised = puzzled = astounded
angrily	low	
anxiously = nervously	even = steady	
softly = quietly	trembling = shaky	
	high-pitched	
	cold	

## LOOK AND SIGHT

He looked around	<i>Il regarda autour de lui</i>
He looked up	<i>Il leva les yeux / regarda en l'air</i>
He looked directly into her eyes	<i>Il la regarda droit dans les yeux</i>
He stared at him	<i>Il le regarda fixement / le dévisagea</i>
He glared at him	<i>Il lui lança un regard furieux</i>
Their eyes connected = they exchanged looks = they exchanged glances	

## BODY LANGUAGE

Head / face	Hands / arms	Legs / feet
He nodded = il acquiesça	He shrugged = il haussa les épaules	He crossed his legs
He shook his head = il fit "non" de la tête	He crossed / folded his arms	He stretched his legs = il s'étira les jambes
He smiled (at him)	He clapped his hands	He tapped his feet impatiently
He rolled his eyes		
He turned his head to her		
He frowned = il fronça les sourcils		

## EMOTIONS

Shame	She blushed = She coloured = elle rougit (WITH shame)
Fear / cold	- She shivered (with fear or cold) - She trembled (with fear or cold)
Happiness	Her face lit up = son visage s'illumina (v. to light – lit – lit)
Change of emotions	- She grew thoughtful = She turned thoughtful = elle devint pensive
Relaxing	- He breathed deeply = He took a deep breath = il respira profondément

## MOVEMENT

To run	Out	He ran out (of the room) = il sortit (de la pièce) en courant
	Across	He ran across the room = il traversa la pièce en courant
To lean	On	He leaned on me = il s'appuya sur moi
	Against	He leaned against the wall = il s'appuya contre le mur
	Forward	He leaned forward = il se pencha en avant
To sit	Down	He sat down = il s'assit
	Across (from s.o.)	He sat across from me = il s'assit en face de moi
To stand	/ / / / / /	He was standing = il était debout
	Up	He stood up

## VARIOUS ACTIONS

- He struck a match and lit a cigarette = *Il gratta une allumette et alluma une cigarette (to strike-struck-struck)*
- He dialed Kathy and got the answering-machine. = *Il fit le numéro de Kathie et tomba sur le répondeur.*
- He dialed the police = *Il fit le numéro de la police*
- He hung up = *Il raccrocha (to hang-hung –hung)*
- She took a sip of her coffee while she thought about the best way to answer his question.= *Elle but une gorgée de café en réfléchissant à la meilleure façon de lui répondre.*
- He sighed = *Il soupira*
- He hesitated, then... = *Il hésita, puis ....*
- He took his time answering = *Il prit son temps pour répondre.*
- No one spoke or move = *Personne n'osait parler ni bouger.*

## GETTING COLLOQUIAL...

Vous pouvez compiler ici toutes les expressions très parlées que vous connaissez comme :

« What the Hell are you talking about ?! »

« Are you kidding ? »

... etc.