

Scene Assignment #4 (dialogue)

Scenes are the building blocks of stories, so it's essential that we know how to set one up effectively and engagingly. Scenes must be limited to one location, and cannot have a significant lapse in time. Other than that they usually contain multiple characters and some sort of dramatic action. The real alchemy lies in turning a scene, or a series of scenes, into a story, but we'll get to that later.

Write a scene that is at least 80% dialogue (signal phrases (he said/she said) are counted as dialogue). I'd like you to submit one "clean" copy, and one copy that has the dialogue highlighted, shaded, or otherwise marked with one color and everything else marked with another color.

I expect this scene to be a page or so in length, and polished. You should revise and edit your scene to the point where it beckons to be finished or at least extended. Make sure all language and subject matter is school appropriate.

Rubric:

Mechanics: ____/5 (no passive voice, vague pronouns, fragments, tense shifts, punctuation abuse, etc.)

Engaging and believable character(s): ____/5

Dialogue is clear and engaging and carries the tension, drama, and emotion of the scene: ____/5

Emotion: ____/5 (the scene contained drama, tension, etc., which made me *feel* something when I read it)

Total: ____/20

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