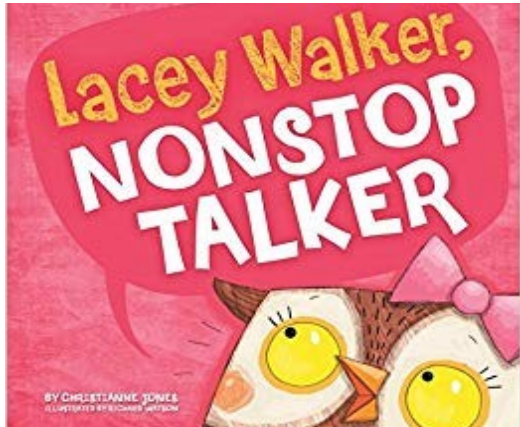


# Writing Trait: Voice and Organization

Learning Intention: understanding and writing dialogue

S.D. #71



By Christianne Jones

## Before Reading

Learning Outcomes: A1, B5,

Using the title and pictures, predict what this book might be about. Turn and talk to a partner, then share ideas with the class.

Co-create ideas regarding the parts of a story. From the title and front cover illustration, what might some of those parts be in this story?

## During Reading

Learning Outcomes: A2, B6

Explain that the learning intention for today is to look closely at how authors of books like this, get characters to talk to each other. Invite students to share what they already know about character talk.

## After Reading

Learning Outcomes: C5

Explain that there is a mystery that needs to be solved. Writers know lots of tricks about the ways in which they write the talk that characters do. Share a few examples from Lacey Walker Nonstop Talker and ask what they notice, think and wonder about this.

e.g.

Write piece of dialogue on the board and ask students to look for two parts.

"Lacey, please quit talking! I can't hear my movie!" shouted her brother.

**"dialogue."** **dialogue tag.**

“ character talks      ” writer explains who is speaking and may include another detail to move the story along.

E.g.

"I just love to talk, talk, talk," said Lacey as she ignored what her best friend was saying.

Lacey put up her hand to speak in class, but blurted out, "I know the answer! Pick me. Pick me!"

Use the following pages for some dialogue practice. Using two colours of highlighters, students colour-code the two parts of dialogue. Eventually, when they add dialogue to their own stories, they can use highlighters to show the two parts they've included!

Using two colours, highlight the two parts of dialogue:  
what the narrator says (dialogue tag) and what  
the character says (dialogue).

Based on the book, Lacey Walker Nonstop Talker by Christianne Jones

Name:

= dialogue (what the character says " Please stop talking!"

= dialogue tag (tells us who is doing the talking)

"Lacey, please stop talking and eat your lunch," chided her mom.

"Lacey," chided her mom, "Please stop talking and eat your lunch.

"Lacey, less talking and more listening," scolded her teacher.

Her teacher scolded, "Lacey, less talking and more listening.

Try writing some dialogue yourself. What might one of the characters in this book say?

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