

Dialog Check List

- 1- Weed out fluff words.
- 2- Use dialect sparingly.
- 3- Keep the reader involved.
- 4- Use dialog for exposition.
- 5- Use dialog to change pace.
- 6- Use scene to promote dialog.
- 7- Use dialog to illustrate a scene.
- 8- Use dialog to illustrate attitudes.
- 9- Paint the atmosphere of another era.
- 10-Keep it short. Include only essentials.
- 11-Try to avoid disclaimers within the story.
- 12-Use "said" in preference to other words.
- 13-Don't use dialog to preach to the reader.
- 14-Use dialog and scene to illustrate a mood.
- 15-Add action to enhance the impact of dialog.
- 16-Eliminate "said" when the speaker is obvious.
- 17-Create a sense of place or add descriptive details.
- 18-Combine dialog with action for emphasis, and reality.
- 19-Do not use dialog for the single purpose of exposition.
- 20-Use dialog propel the story forward- -not to carry the story.
- 21-Use dialog to add life and show character and personality.
- 22-Provide clues. Allow the reader's imagination to fill in details.
- 23-Use disclaimers won't provide and the actual words are important.
- 24-Break up the page- -add white spaces to make the page imposing.
- 25-Do not use dialog to explain what should be obvious to the other party.