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# How to Turn Flat Dialogue Into an Exciting Story

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Read the following script dialogue and watch how it becomes narrative dialogue.

**Fred: There is a dog.**

**Mary: It is a big dog.**

**Fred: It bit me.**

Sounds pretty flat, doesn't it? Reading lines from a script can be dull because the reader can't see the actors or the action. To fix this, add some movement to the script. These are called stage directions. Also, give your actors some expression with more exact dialogue.

**Fred: (calls out to Mary) There is a huge bulldog coming this way!**

**Mary: (turns to Fred) It is a gigantic bulldog with fangs and a blue tail. I think it is glaring at us. Do you have a net?**

**Fred: (looking down in disbelief) Too late. I think the creature just took my hand off. Ouch!**

Well, it is getting better. But what else is missing? Scenery, of course! Add some images so we know where we are and put the dialogue into story form. Try to think of other words besides "said" when your characters talk to each other. It also helps to dress the characters to match their setting, so put costumes on the characters.

**While exploring the dense jungle on planet Xenon, Fred, flipping back his space helmet visor, calls out to Mary, "There is a huge bulldog coming this way."**

**Turning both of her heads in his direction, Mary quickly responds in a high squeaky voice, "It is a gigantic bulldog with sharp fangs and a blue tail. I think it is glaring at us. Do you have a net?"**

**Jumping forward at light speed, the rabid creature made a leap for Fred and then quickly retreated into the tall purple vegetation surrounding them. "Too late," Fred sighs, "I think the creature just took my hand off. Ouch!" Fred shrugged his shoulders, "Guess I will just have to grow another hand."**

Now create some dialogue of your own using Fred and Mary by following these simple steps:

1. **Write the lines.** Remember to put plenty of space in the dialogue and go to the next line when you change characters.
2. **Add some movement.** What are the characters doing?
3. **Add some scenery and images.** Where are the characters? What descriptive words can you use?
4. **Put your characters in costume.** What are the characters wearing? What do they look like?