

# Title: Punctuating Dialogue

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Period \_\_\_\_\_

I annotated this key for you. I hope it helps answer some of your questions.  
Please note that I did not repeat the annotations over again, if they had already been covered.

## Exercise

1. **“Do you know when Shakespeare was born?”**

**Mickey asked.**

A question mark must be used and placed inside of closing quotation marks if the speaker is asking a question.

2. **“He was born in 1564,” answered Gina.**

A period is needed to end the sentence.

3. **Pedro added, “Not much is known about his life.”**

A comma is needed to introduce the spoken words that are coming.

Periods go inside closing quotes.

New thought/sentence

4. **“He married Anne Hathaway,” said Gina. “They lived in Stratford.”**

In this situation, a comma goes inside closing quotation marks to get to the speaker tag. That thought ends. A new statement begins and is punctuated accordingly.

5. **“How many plays did he write in all?” asked Pedro.**

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Exercise continued.

6. "I counted a total of thirty-eight plays," replied Mickey.

This word right here gives you a MAJOR clue as to what punctuation mark should be used before it.

7. "Imagine writing so many!" exclaimed Gina. "The plays were very popular."

8. Mickey stated, "Many of them were presented at the Globe Theater."

Continued thought or the rest of the sentence.

9. "All parts," Pedro declared, "were performed by men."

This is a sentence where the person's words are interrupted in the middle by a speaker tag. Since the speaker's thought was never completed, the quote must continue until the thought is complete. NOTE A COMMA goes AFTER THE SPEAKER TAG and a lowercase letter starts the 2nd part of the same sentence.

10. "It's a good thing that theater has changed since then," remarked Gina.

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(This page shows how the dialogue would look if it weren't on this worksheet.)

**“Do you know when Shakespeare was born?”**

**Mickey asked.**

**“He was born in 1564,” answered Gina.**

**Pedro added, “Not much is known about his life.”**

**“He married Anne Hathaway,” said Gina. “They lived in Stratford.”**

**“How many plays did he write in all?” asked Pedro.**

**“I counted a total of thirty-eight plays,” replied Mickey.**

**“Imagine writing so many!” exclaimed Gina. “The plays were very popular.”**

**Mickey stated, “Many of them were presented at the Globe Theater.”**

**“All parts,” Pedro declared, “were performed by men.”**

A period is placed here because *declare* is a synonym for stated.

**“It’s a good thing that theater has changed since then,” remarked Gina.**