

Dialogue Writing Exercise

May 8, 2024

From the list below, select a conversation to write about. (If you like, you may combine ideas from two or more prompts to write about, but be careful to record your revised prompt.)

Put your characters in an interesting situations. Get creative with settings, character voices, and unique dialogue. Focus on giving each character a distinct voice, avoiding excessive attribution and exposition, and letting the subtext show through the dialogue.

Every conversation is an opportunity for conflict, tension, and revelation. Have fun getting creative with unique character dynamics.

Since we will be reading these at the meeting, try to keep the length to three typewritten pages.

1. A detective interrogating a suspect
2. Two politicians debating a controversial issue
3. A boss firing an employee who was once his boss.
4. A job interview going very poorly
5. Coworkers gossiping about a workplace romance between two other coworkers.
6. Two strangers stuck in an elevator
7. A marriage proposal involving a prenuptial agreement.
8. Two friends having an intervention for someone's addiction
9. Two aliens from different planets meeting for the first time
10. A wizard trying to convince a knight to go on a quest
11. Talking animals discussing the strange behaviors of humans
12. A man learning from his wife and his best friend that his wife wants a divorce.
13. A couple's first argument after getting married
14. Exes running into each other and catching up
15. Two employees venting about their horrible boss