

Name _____

An old piece of writing advice is to “show, don’t tell,” and nowhere does this come into play more than in the issue of dialogue. A good storyteller helps the reader sense the mood of his or her characters by what they say and how they say it. Consider the following examples:

Telling: John was disgusted by his brother’s dirty sock.

Showing: “I’m going to gag if you don’t get that nasty sock out of here! Look, there’s something growing on it!” John said.

Rewrite each sentence below as a line of dialogue that reflects how the character is feeling.

1. Elaine was thrilled to be invited to the party.

2. Mrs. Miller was sympathetic to our problem.

3. The he tried to understand, Ryan remained bewildered.

4. Carol was amazed that the project had turned out so well.
