

## Writing Dialogue

On another sheet of paper, convert the following two scenes into dialogue.

1. A boy and girl are walking to school one morning. The boy realizes he has forgotten an important schoolbook. He wants to go back and get it before proceeding on to school. The girl doesn't want to go back for the book because she is afraid they will be late for school.

(Write the debate they have about whether or not to go back for the book.)

2. Christmas morning at the Baker home starts out sad. Mr. Baker recently lost his job and there are few presents under the tree. Four-year-old Tommy Baker wakes up last. He walks into the living room and says something that makes the rest of his family smile. A happy conversation follows.

(What did Tommy say? What conversation followed?)

## Reading Exercise

Select a short story with lots of dialogue. Read only the dialogue in the story. Does the story make sense when you read just the dialogue? Now read the story without the dialogue. Does the story make sense without the dialogue? What does dialogue add to a story? Why are the other parts of the story necessary, too?

