

Day 11 Oct 15/16

Take out your rough draft (handwritten) or share it with me on Google Classroom. (You can use the same form for your rough draft and your final draft.)

Goals:

- know how to punctuate dialogue correctly
- know how to use precise vocabulary
  - > you can "add" details by being more specific
- ***New due date: Tuesday Oct 20 at 11:00 pm***

### Punctuating Dialogue

- Quotation marks "D... ?" (point down & in)
- Punctuation goes **INSIDE** the quotation marks
- Separate dialogue tags with punctuation (usually a comma)
- Begin the quotation with a capital letter; you don't need a capital letter for the continuation of a quotation.
- Begin a new ¶ when the speaker changes
- If you're not sure, look at the dialogue in those three narratives, and copy their format (but indent more than they do)

## Punctuating Dialogue

### Punctuating Dialogue

1. Always begin with a capital letter when people are speaking.
  2. All punctuation at the end goes inside the quotation marks. (There are very few exceptions.)
  3. If the speaking tag (he said) breaks up the quotation, do NOT capitalize the continuation:  
"Right now," father said, "you must get to work!"
  4. When the speaker changes, begin a new paragraph!
- If you're not sure, look at the dialogue in those three narratives, and copy their format (but indent more than they do)

## Using Specific Language:

On my website, read "My Father Was a US Citizen."

Is this story

- good?
- clear?
- well-written?

This was Buscaglia's rough draft!!

Go on my website and read "My Father Was a US Citizen" side-by-side with your copy of "Papa Was an American." The two texts match up paragraph for paragraph. The first is a rough draft. What did Buscaglia do to improve his story?

**My Father Was a US Citizen**

When I started junior high school, my feelings for my parents changed. They were different. They talked funny. They gave me different foods. I felt ashamed. I even had a funny name.

One day after school, some mean kids started bullying me. They were calling me names and hitting me.

I thought it would never end. I didn't even know what half the names meant, but I cried as I ran home. I locked myself in the bathroom. Those bullies should not have done that. But what could I do?

My father asked me what was wrong. He gave me a hug.\* He asked me what was the matter and told me to tell him.

I told him about leaving school and the bullies and how they hit me and called me mean names. And then I waited for my father to go out and find the parents of the bullies and make sure they were punished. But he didn't do anything.

Then my father tried to comfort me. He called the bullies cowards who would pick on anyone who was different.

I told him I hated being Italian. I want to be something else.

My father grabbed me and seemed to get mad. He started yelling at me and began telling me about all the wonderful things Italians had done in art, literature, and architecture. He told me I should be proud to be an Italian and an American too.

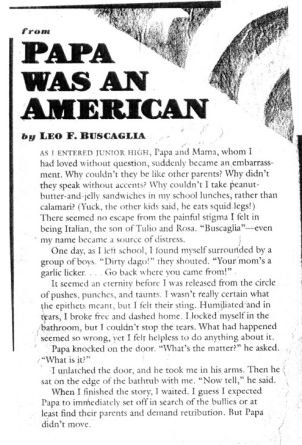
I told him I wanted to be the same as everybody else.

He disagreed. He said that everyone was different. That's not how it was meant to be. He asked me if I wanted to be just like the bullies.

I had to admit that I did not.

He told me to stop crying and to be proud instead. There will always be bullies. Don't be afraid of them. Be brave.

Eventually, I stopped crying and my father gave me a snack. From this experience I learned that you should be proud of who you are and where you come from.



"I see," he said quietly. "They finally found you. Those cowards who don't know us but hate us all the same. I know they hurt you, but what they did wasn't meant just for you. It could have been anyone who is different."

"I hate being Italian!" I confessed angrily. "I wish I could be anything else!"

Papa held me firmly now, and his voice had an edge of anger. "Never let me hear you say that again! Italians make beautiful music, paint wonderful pictures, write great books, and build beautiful buildings. How can you not be proud to be an Italian? And you're extra lucky, because you're an American too."

"But I don't want to be different!" I objected. "I'd rather be like everyone else."

"Well, you're not like everyone else. God never intended us all to be the same. And would you want to be like the boys who hurt you?"

"No."

"Then wipe your tears and be proud of who you are. You can be sure it won't be the last time you'll meet such people. Feel sorry for them, but don't be afraid of them. We've got to be strong."

He dried my tears. "Now," he said, "let's get some bread and butter and go eat in the garden."

After pulling up your copy of "Papa Was an American" and reading both stories side-by-side, ...

What do you notice?

See how Buscaglia uses **specific language and examples!**

You can do that too! Go through your rough draft and for each sentence, ask yourself: **how can I make this more specific, the way Buscaglia did.**

**General Tips for Writing a good story:**

What is the time period for the action? Is it less than an hour?

Don't keep counting the number of words. Just tell your story. If you reach the end of your story and you do not have enough words, then go through the **Elaboration Techniques** and ask yourself, *which techniques can I use to make my story better?*

Have someone else read your story. If that person does not understand something or is unclear about something, then you need to add more explanation (sometimes it's as simple as adding *I unlocked the door.*)

Due Tuesday, October 20.