Who Said It?

Fourth Grade | Writing | 75 minutes | Standards: L.4.2
by Susan Russell | August 3, 2015

Students will have a blast creating their own cartoons and comics. This lesson provides an engaging method to help students demonstrate the use of quotation marks when writing.

Learning Objectives
Students will be able to use quotation marks correctly when writing.

Materials and Preparation
- Chart paper (Before beginning your lesson, create an anchor chart with the following quotation rules: 1) Put quotation marks around a direct quote at the beginning or end of a sentence. 2) Put quotation marks around a direct quote in the middle of a sentence. 2) Put quotation marks around a broken quote in a sentence.
- A cartoon strip such as Charlie Brown, which has an example of dialogue and use of quotation marks.
- White paper

Key Terms:
- quotation marks

Lesson
Introduction (10 minutes)
- Start the lesson by discussing and demonstrating the use of quotation marks in writing.
- Display your anchor chart and use it as the focus of your discussion.
- Have student volunteer read the rules and discuss. Check for understanding.

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Explicit Instruction/Teacher Modeling (10 minutes)

- Emphasize that **quotation marks** wrap around the part a person is saying.
- Remind students of the role commas and capitalization play when using quotation marks.
- Select some dialogue from a story the class is reading.
- Write several sentences from the text’s dialogue on the board.
- Leave the quotation marks out of the sentences that you write down.
- Demonstrate where and discuss why you would add quotation marks, commas, and capitalization to the sentences.

Guided Practice/Interactive Modeling (15 minutes)

- Write down several sentences from a dialogue in a story the class is reading, again leaving out the quotation marks.
- Ask for student volunteers to come up to the board and add quotation marks, commas, and capitalization as needed.
- Discuss student work.

Independent Working Time (20 minutes)

- Tell students they will be practicing the use of quotation marks by creating a cartoon.
- Hand out a piece of white paper to all students.
- Ask students fold their paper in half both ways to create four equal sections.
- Ask students to take a black marker and draw over the folded lines to define sections.
- Tell students to create a cartoon within the four sections. The cartoon should have dialogue bubbles and a conversation between two characters.
- Show a sample of a popular cartoon, such as Charlie Brown, and talk about the dialogue and quotation marks used.
- Have students work independently, and collect their cartoons once they're done.
Extend

Differentiation

- **Enrichment:** Allow advanced students to create a slideshow cartoon with dialogue boxes to demonstrate correct use of quotation marks. Allow students to show their slideshows to the rest of the class during Review and Closing.
- **Support:** Struggling students may need to work with a proficient partner as they create their cartoons. Provide support and small group intervention as needed.

Review

Assessment *(10 minutes)*

- Review students’ quotation use in their cartoons.
- Meet with small groups to discuss and correct any work with errors.
- Return cartoons with feedback to students.

Review and Closing *(10 minutes)*

- If advanced students created a cartoon slideshow, allow them to show it to the class at this time.
- Ask for student volunteers to come up and show and read the cartoons they created on paper.
- Discuss quotation use and display all student work once discussion is completed.