

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Dialogue Tags & Action Beats

**Dialogue tags** identify speakers by using a speech verb. They can appear at the beginning, in the middle, or at the end of speech.

"What time is it?" she asked. Elias whined, "I'm hot."

"If you're tired," said Dad, "you should go to bed."

**Action beats** identify speakers by describing a non-speech action they have taken or are taking. They can appear in the same places as dialogue tags, but they use different punctuation and capitalization.

"It's late!" He tapped his watch. I blinked. "Can we start?"

"Kai left." Birdie frowned. "He left without saying goodbye."

Search one or more book in your classroom or home. Find and copy an example of each type of dialogue tag and action beat. Make sure to copy the punctuation and



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### Dialogue Tag – Middle

Example: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Page: \_\_\_\_\_

### Dialogue Tag – End

Example: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Page: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# Dialogue Tags & Action Beats

## Action Beat – Beginning

Example: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Page: \_\_\_\_\_

## Action Beat – Middle

Example: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



## ★ Challenge

### Combined Dialogue Tag and Action Beat – Any Location

Example: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Page: \_\_\_\_\_