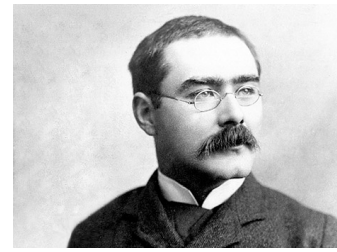


Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2020

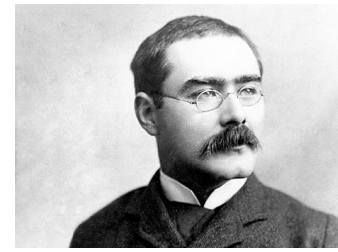


## LO: Writing dialogue

Today we are looking at how dialogue (speech) can often give your reader more details about a character.

**Dialogue** often gives **clues** to the **personality** of a character and their **motives** for acting in a certain way.

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2020



## LO: Writing dialogue

Look at the extracts from 'The Jungle Book' on the next two slides.

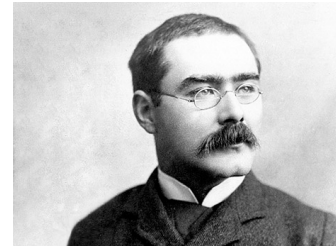
What **clues** can you find in the **dialogue** that reveal something about **character** and **motive**?

***Answers are on the following slides.***

## Extract one

*From 'Mowgli's Brothers'*

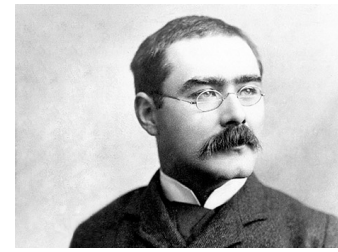
*Shere Khan looking for infant Mowgli*



The moonlight was blocked out of the mouth of the cave, for Shere Khan's great square head and shoulders were thrust into the entrance. Tabaqui, behind him, was squeaking: "My lord, my lord, it went in here!"

"Shere Khan does us great honour," said Father Wolf, but his eyes were very angry.

"What does Shere Khan need?"



## Extract one

From 'Mowgli's Brothers'

Shere Khan looking for infant Mowgli

The moonlight was blocked out of the mouth of the cave, for Shere Khan's great square head and shoulders were **thrust into the entrance**. Tabaqui, behind him, was **squeaking**: "**My lord, my lord**, it went in here!"

"Shere Khan **does us great honour**," said Father Wolf, but **his eyes were very angry**. "What does Shere Khan need?"

Aggressive  
– came in  
uninvited

Repetition  
shows  
excitement

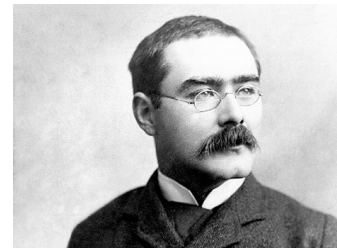
Weak, tiny

Words don't  
match  
emotion -  
suggests he is  
controlling  
words due to  
danger

## Extract two

*From 'Mowgli's Brothers'*

*Wolf pack discuss what to do with Mowgli*

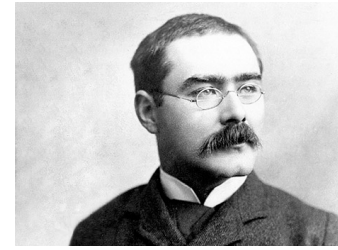


“I speak for the man's cub. There is no harm in a man's cub. I have no gift of words, but I speak the truth. Let him run with the Pack, and be entered with the others. I myself will teach him.”

“We need yet another,” said Akela. “Baloo has spoken, and he is our teacher for the young cubs. Who speaks besides Baloo?”

A black shadow dropped down into the circle. Everybody knew Bagheera, and nobody cared to cross his path; but he had a voice as soft as wild honey dripping from a tree, and a skin softer than down.

“O Akela, and ye the Free People,” he purred, “I have no right in your assembly, but the Law of the Jungle says that if there is a doubt which is not a killing matter in regard to a new cub, the life of that cub may be bought at a price. And the Law does not say who may or may not pay that price. Am I right?”



## Extract two

From 'Mowgli's Brothers'

... discuss what to do with Mowgli

Baloo is clever (no harm), confident (speak the truth) and nurturing (teach him)

... cub. There is **no harm** in a man's cub. I ... words, but I **speak the truth**. Let him run with the Pack, and be entered with the others. **I myself will teach him.**"

**"We need yet another,"** said Akela. "Baloo has spoken, and he is our teacher for the young cubs. **Who speaks besides Baloo?"**

A black shadow dropped down into the circle ... Bagheera, and ... voice as soft as ... than down.

Bagheera – quietly dangerous

Akela – he's a leader who is not dominating; he listens and is fair

**"O Akela, and ye the Free People,"** he purred, **"I have no right in your assembly,** but the **Law of the Jungle says** that if there is a doubt ... a killing matter in regard to any cub, the life of ... be bought at a price ... say ... not pay that price

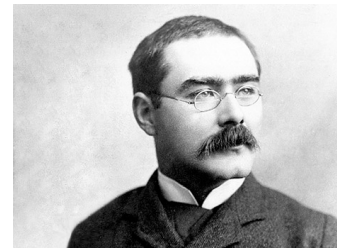
He flatters the pack

He is clever; using Wolf law to argue case

## Extract three

*From 'Rikki-Tikki-Tavi'*

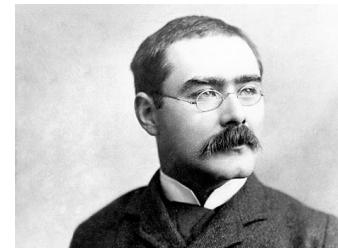
*Nagaina wants revenge on the family*



Teddy's eyes were fixed on his father, and all his father could do was to whisper, "Sit still, Teddy. You mustn't move. Teddy, keep still."

Then Rikki-tikki came up and cried, "Turn round, Nagaina. Turn and fight!"

"All in good time," said she, without moving her eyes. "I will settle my account with you presently. Look at your friends, Rikki-tikki. They are still and white. They are afraid. They dare not move, and if you come a step nearer I strike."



## Extract three

From 'Rikki-Tikki-Tavi'

Nagaina. Short and repetitive sentences show his urgency and fear

Teddy was fixed on his father, and all his father's words were to whisper, "**Sit still, Teddy.**

**You mustn't move. Teddy, keep still!**"

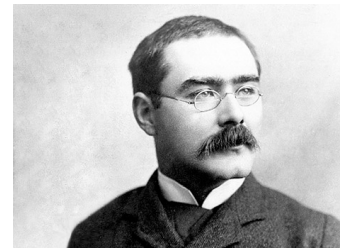
Then Rikki-tikki came up and called Nagaina. Turn and fight!"

Longer and more complex language; shows she is in control of the situation

"**All in good time,**" said she, without moving her eyes. "**I will settle my account with you presently. Look at your friends, Rikki-tikki. They are still and white. They are afraid. They dare not move, and if you come a step nearer I strike.**"



Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2020



## LO: Writing dialogue

Let's recap the rules for writing dialogue.

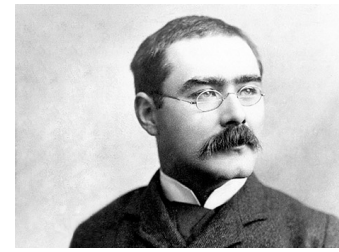
1. Speech marks “hug”  
the **spoken words**.

What will he do for us? He is not of our tribe, being footless and with most evil eyes.

“What will he do for us? He is not of our tribe, being footless and with most evil eyes,” said Bagheera.



Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2020



## LO: Writing dialogue

2. A **comma** usually separates the **direct speech** from the reporting clause (unless the speech ends in **!** or **?**)

“He has not eaten,”  
said Baloo, with a  
grunt of relief.

“**He has not eaten,**” said **Baloo**, with a grunt of relief.

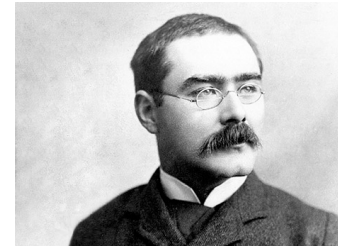
“**Give me permission to come with you,**” pleaded **Kaa**.

“**Good hunting!**” cried **Baloo**, sitting up on his haunches.

“**Oho, Baloo, what dost thou do here?**” asked **Kaa**.



Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2020



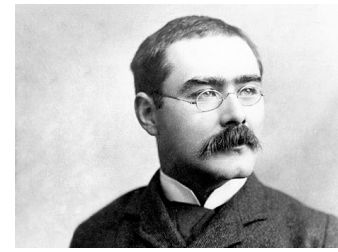
## LO: Writing dialogue

**3. Direct speech begins with a capital letter, unless the sentence is interrupted by a reporting clause.**

"I came very near to falling on my last hunt," **said Kaa**, "and the noise of my slipping waked the Bandar-log, and they called me most evil names."



Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2020



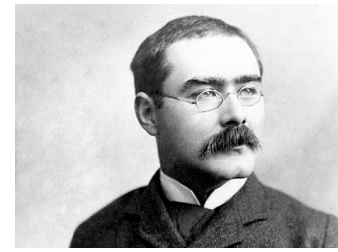
## LO: Writing dialogue

### 4. Each new speaker starts on a new line.

“What will he do for us?” said Bagheera. “He is very old and very cunning,” said Baloo hopefully. “Promise him many goats.” “He sleeps for a full month after he has once eaten.” Bagheera, who did not know much about Kaa, was naturally suspicious. “Then in that case, thou and I together, old hunter, might make him see reason.” Here Baloo rubbed his faded brown shoulder against the Panther, and they went off to look for Kaa the Rock Python.

It's hard to see who is speaking when the dialogue is squashed together.

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2020



## LO: Writing dialogue

### 4. Each new speaker starts on a new line.

“What will he do for us?” said Bagheera.

“He is very old and very cunning,” said Baloo hopefully.

“Promise him many goats.”

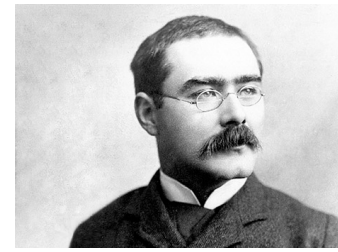
“He sleeps for a full month after he has once eaten.”

Bagheera, who did not know much about Kaa, was naturally suspicious.

“Then in that case, thou and I together, old hunter, might make him see reason.” Here Baloo rubbed his faded brown shoulder against the Panther, and they went off to look for Kaa the Rock Python.

This is better!

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2020



## LO: Writing dialogue

**Your task:** Use one of the following scenarios to write a dialogue:

- Think about the personalities of the two characters.
- Is there a good / bad character?
- How can you reveal aspects of their characters in the dialogue?

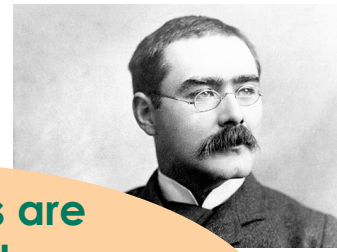
A pet rabbit is hiding under his hutch. A fox has wandered into the garden and is trying to persuade the rabbit to come out.

A cat wants to sit in a warm patch of grass but the dog who lives in the garden thinks the cat is planning to steal his ball.

Two pigeons are arguing over who can eat the bread left on the bird table; neither of the birds want to share.

*The following slide gives an example to help you start.*

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2020



## LO: Writing dialogue

### Example:

“I love bread.” Pidge informed Eon.

“So do I!” declared Eon, aggressively. He desperately wanted the bread and was not going to let Pidge take it.

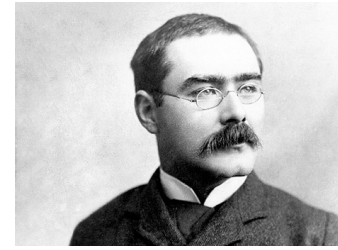
“We could... share?” Pidge’s statement (which was really a question) did not convince Eon. “Although I am sure a fine bird like yourself would not dream of allowing a fellow bird go hungry.” Pidge tried to make herself look small and weak. Eon was not falling for it.

“And I am sure that a marvellous specimen of pigeon such as yourself would allow the bird who came first to eat the bread!”

Two pigeons are arguing over who can eat the bread left on the bird table; neither of the birds want to share.

***You can continue this conversation if you are unsure where to start.***

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2020



## LO: Writing dialogue

Remember the rules for writing dialogue:

1. Speech marks “hug” the **spoken words**.

2. A **comma** usually separates the **direct speech** from the reporting clause (unless the speech ends in **!** or **?**)

3. Direct speech begins with a capital letter, unless the sentence is interrupted by a **reporting clause**.

A **reporting clause** is who said what and how. E.g:

- Tom said quietly
- She wailed loudly.

4. Each new speaker starts on a new line.