

PRACTICE THE CONVERSATION:

- A: Look at the squiggle dialogue. We don't know what the words are, but we know some things about them. What do we know about that first squiggle?
- **B:** It's speech. They're words someone is saying.
- **A:** Yes. And right after that? What do we know about that next squiggle?
- **B:** That part tells who said it.
- **A:** Right. We call that a tag. Now look at the second line. What do we know about that first squiggle?
- B: It's more speech.
- A: Is it the same person saying it?
- **B:** No. It's someone else.
- A: How can you tell it's someone else?
- **B:** It's a new paragraph.
- A: Good. And right after it, on the same line?
- **B:** Another tag. It tells who said that part.
- A: Yes. And the third paragraph?
- **B:** It's speech and another tag and then something else.
- **A:** What's that something else? The sentence at the end. What do we know about that?
- **B:** We know it's something else, like action. Like "he slammed the door."
- **A:** Good. And the last paragraph?
- **B:** It's the other speaker's speech.
- **A:** Excellent. You recognize several clues created by spaces and punctuation, which tell us what those words are doing: speech, tags, action, and indents.
- **B:** Hey. That's almost like the chicken dance.
- A: How could that be? Let's find out!



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