



## This is a List of Words to Never Use in a Dialog Tag

We created this list to remind us not to make this mistake when writing dialog.

|          |           |           |                |                |
|----------|-----------|-----------|----------------|----------------|
| Belched  | Laughed   | Smiled    | Clucked tongue | Cleared throat |
| Beamed   | Trembled  | Wept      | Choked         | Jeered         |
| Giggled  | Quivered  | Shrugged  | Coughed        | Gulped         |
| Chuckled | Grinned   | Breathed  | Yawned         | Sniffed        |
| Nodded   | Smirked   | Leered    | Sneered        | Sniffled       |
| Snorted  | Shivered  | Shuddered | Quaked         | Shook          |
| Spit     | Snickered | Gasped    | Shook head     | Waved          |
| Wept     | Growled   | Fumed     | Ticked off     | Glowered       |
| Seethed  | Thrilled  | Hissed    | Signaled       | Scowled        |
| Gurgled  | Sighed    | Swallowed | Exhaled        | inhaled        |

These are not all the words to watch for in your dialog tags. But this list should give you a good idea of what words not to use in speech tags.

Many of these are action words which will help your reader visualize the conversation.

The correct way to use these words is to weave them into the dialog in a separate sentence, not as part of the dialog tag.