Using Dialogue to Provoke Action

Writers use dialogues to create character because what a person does or doesn’t say, or how a person reacts to a certain situation, says a lot about a person’s character. Characters can also say things about each other, which gives the reader insight into both the character speaking and the character being described. Dialogue is also a way to show a reader what is on a character’s mind, and a way to spur a character into action.

DIRECTIONS: Read the assigned text. Choose a specific conversation between characters. Then answer the questions.

1. Briefly summarize the dialogue.

2. Based on the dialogue alone, describe one of the characters. Quote from the text to support your answer.

3. Does the dialogue provoke decision or action on the part of any characters? How?