

Literary Analysis

DIALOGUE

Dialogue is written conversation between two or more characters. In this one-act play, the dialogue presents the key plot events. It also helps to create the mood and setting. The characters speak in a **dialect**, a form of language spoken by people from a particular region or group. These characters speak a dialect from the remote Irish islands of Aran.

Directions: Complete this chart to analyze the effect of Synge’s dialogue. Analyze the lines in the first column. Paraphrase each line of dialogue in conventional English. Then tell what the original line reveals that the paraphrase does not. Then select two more lines to consider.

Original Dialogue	Conventional English Paraphrase	Effect of the Original Dialogue
Nora. We’re to find out if it’s Michael’s they are, some time herself will be down looking by the sea. (lines 19–20)		
Maurya. It’s a hard thing they’ll be saying below if the body is washed up and there’s no man in it to make the coffin, and I after giving a big price for the finest white boards you’d find in Connemara. (lines 96–99)		