

## Before Reading

1. Read the following information and label each bubble.

Speech and thought bubbles make the texts in comics and cartoons expressive and meaningful. There are five main speech and thought balloons.

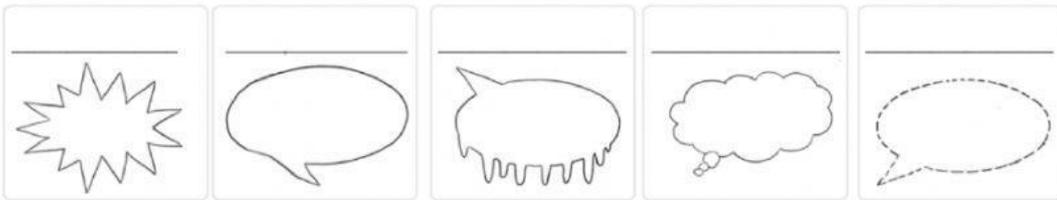
**Speech bubble:** It is the most common bubble. It has a well-defined line and a tail directed towards the character who is speaking.

**Whisper bubble:** It is similar to the speech bubble but its frame is dotted.

**Scream bubble:** This bubble's line have spikes and it can be used to mark an onomatopoeia, a scream, or a loud noise. It doesn't have a tail.

**Icicle bubble:** This bubble's bottom line has the shape of icicles denoting a character's cold attitude while speaking.

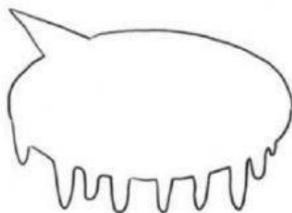
**Thought bubble:** This bubble has a cloud-shaped line and instead of having a tail it has a series of increasingly small circles pointing to the character.



2. Read the excerpts and complete the descriptions about them choosing words from the Word Bank. Then, write the quote of each excerpt in the correct speech or thought bubble.

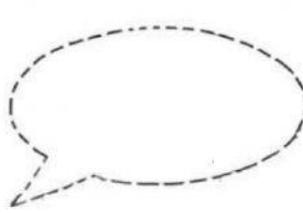
a. Mr. Heatcliffs' attitude was very unfriendly and rude. He looked at me and said in a very cold voice, "Leave the dog alone!".  
(Adapted from *Wuthering Heights* by Emily Brontë)

The \_\_\_\_\_ of the excerpt from *Wuthering Heights* is first person.



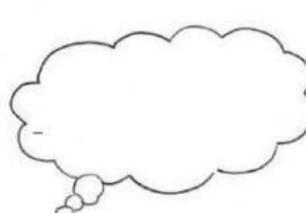
b. Even though father, mother and her sisters sat together celebrating Christmas, Jo thought, "everything is going to change!"  
(Adapted from *Little Women* by Louisa May Alcott)

An important \_\_\_\_\_ in this story is the family life.



c. "Don't talk too loud or Miss Rottenmeier will hear us," whispered Heidi to Klara. In that moment she remembered the Alps and her far-away home.  
(Adapted from *Heidi* by Johanna Spyri)

This is a \_\_\_\_\_. It shows one of the characters remembering.



## Word Bank

- flashback
- theme
- point-of-view

## Dictionary

**Bishop:** A senior member of the Christian church.

**Candlestick:** A holder of one or more candles.

**Ex-con:** An ex-convict; a person who used to be in prison.

3. Read the comic and place the sentences in the correct speech bubbles.

That clears everything up. We'll leave.

I don't know!

These spoons must be valuable.

Father, you can't admit an ex-convict!

I need money desperately.

Yes. I promise I will change.

We have been robbed! That man!

We don't want criminals here.

**The Story of How Jean Valjean Became a New Man**  
(Adapted from *Les Misérables* by Victor Hugo)

France, 1815. After 19 years in prison, Jean Valjean is released. He tries to find a job, but he can't...

In Pontarlier, he arrives at Bishop Myriel's house. He is known as Monsieur Bienvenue.

Good evening, I'm Jean Valjean. I'm an ex-con and I'm hungry.

Ssh!, Madame Magloire.

You are welcome. Have a seat. You will have dinner with us.

Here, use the silver spoon for the soup.

I'll get up and go before they wake up.

Jean Valjean took the money and escaped.

Don't worry. Wasn't the money for the poor? And wasn't he poor?

Monsieur, we caught this man near your house with this money.

Did you take the money from this house? Speak!

I gave it to him.

My friend, you forgot the silver spoons and candlesticks. Take them.

What? Why is he doing this?

Brother, change your life. Use this money to rebuild your life as an honest man.

## After Reading

4. Use the Word Bank to label each narrative element of the text.

	It's a French historical novel.
	France; 1815
	Jean Valjean
	Bishop Myriel, Madame Magloire and policemen
	The narrator tells the story in third person.
	There is a radical change in the plot when the bishop instead of agreeing with the policemen says he willingly gave Jean Valjean the money.
	Jean Valjean is released from prison.
	The suspense increases when Jean Valjean steals from the bishop's house.
	The greatest moment of tension in the story is when Jean Valjean is apprehended by the policemen.
	This moment occurs when the bishop tells Valjean in front of the policemen that he gave him the money as a present.
	With the money that the bishop gave to Jean Valjean, he will be able to begin a new life.

### Word Bank

- twist
- protagonist
- falling action
- secondary characters
- genre
- beginning
- climax
- point of view
- time and place
- rising action
- resolution

### Reading Strategy

Look at the speech bubbles you completed in exercise 3 and explain in your notebook if their use was correct.

## Writing

5. Read this story and complete the speech and thought bubbles. Draw the resolution in your notebook.

Linda Danvers is walking and sees a man trapped under a car asking for help. She knows she's strong enough to lift the car, but she thinks that by doing so, everyone will know she is Supergirl.

