

Down & Dirty Dialog

No

“Is that all there is?” said Duke.
“That’s it.” Said FeeBee.
“I thought there would be more.” said Duke. “The invoice says ten kilos.”
“Let me see that.” FeeBee responded. She grabbed the paper. “It says ten pounds not ten kilos.”
“Crap!” said Duke.
“I know,” said FeeBee.
“What do we do now?” asked Duke.
“We improvise,” said FeeBee. She pulled out her phone.
“What do you suggest?” crumpling the paper.
FeeBee grinned and said, “Make it someone else’s problem.”

Yes

“Is that all there is?” Duke asked.
“That’s it,” FeeBee said.
“I thought there would be more.” He looked at the paper in his hand. “The invoice says ten kilos.”
“Let me see that.” FeeBee grabbed the paper. “It says ten pounds not ten kilos.”
“Crap!”
“I know.”
“What do we do now?”
“We improvise.” FeeBee pulled out her phone.
“What do you suggest?” Duke crumpled the paper.
She grinned. “Make it someone else’s problem.”

- Questions use *asked* not *said*.
- Said tags require a comma not a period.
- *Duke said* is better than *said Duke*.
- Dialog tags and names are not necessary when it is easy to identify the speaker.
- Action tags do not require *said* when it is easy to identify the speaker.
- Action tags should be complete sentences.

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