

3 THE SCHOOL PLAY TEACHER'S NOTES

Objectives

SUMMARY	When Anna Williams gets sick, Ellie, Tom and Dan persuade Ruby to take her place in the school play. Ruby is reluctant at first and very nervous about her performance. By the day of the play Anna is feeling better and wants to perform. Ruby is very disappointed to have to let Anna have the part.
LANGUAGE	present simple, <i>to be</i> (negatives and questions)
USEFUL INFORMATION	Someone who writes plays is either called a “playwright” or a “dramatist”.

THINK ABOUT

If students have already watched the video, refer them back to episode 3. Ask what they remember about the story (e.g., *Why can't Anna perform in the play? How does Ruby feel about acting in the play?*). Once students have reviewed the story, focus on the idea of being nervous before an event.

- 1 Now refer students to the question. Check students' understanding of the adjective “nervous”. Use L1 if necessary. Start by asking for some examples of things people feel nervous about, e.g. the first day at a new school, a big test. Allow students to write down some examples of what makes them nervous and then compare their lists in pairs. Ask pairs to report back to the class.
- 2 Ask students to read through the sentences so they know what they need to listen for. Then students watch the video and complete the sentences by circling the correct word.

Mixed ability idea

Divide the task so that each student listens for a particular character's words.

Answers

1 small 2 We're 3 this 4 can 5 good 6 the

- 3 First ask students to read the six questions. Ask students to take notes while watching the video. Then have students work in pairs and compare notes to answer the questions.

Answers

1 nervous, worried about her lines 2 three days from now
3 Ellie 4 Tom 5 Anna Williams is better and can be in the play 6 She says she knows them all

THINK BACK

- 4 Read through the task with students, making sure they understand that only one word is correct in each blank. Ask students to practice reading the mini-dialogues in pairs.

Answers

1 worry 2 great 3 help 4 can 5 do

Optional activity

Ask students to think of *when*, *where*, and *why* they might hear these mini-dialogues.

THINK THROUGH

ROLE PLAY Ruby and Anna

Explain that the students are going to role play a conversation between Ruby and Anna, both of whom want the same part in the school play.

Read through the task with the class. Draw students' attention to the phrases included in the instructions. Remind students that they can use and adapt any relevant words or phrases from the exercise.

Monitor and offer support while students prepare their role plays. Encourage as many students as possible to perform their role plays for the class.

Optional activity

Students can video their role plays. They can then review them and make sure that they used the language correctly.