

Talk a Lot

Learning English

Role Plays

1. "Give us a quick look at your exam!"

Place: A language school; during an important exam
Time: 1.30pm
Characters: You and another student, then the school principal
Situation: You are in an English language exam. You haven't done any revision and it's a sure thing that you will fail, unless you can copy all of the answers from the bright kid sat next to you

Scenes: i) The exam begins. You realise that you don't know any of the answers. You try to copy from the student next to you, who isn't happy about it. You get caught cheating by the teacher a few times
ii) Half an hour later: the teacher has had enough and moves you to the front of the class. When the teacher has to leave the room for a moment you take the opportunity to sneak a look at the answer paper on their desk
iii) 4pm. You have to talk to the school principal about your behaviour during the exam. You will have to take the exam again, on your own. Try to create some original reasons for your misbehaviour

If there are three people in the group, the third character could be:

- a) *The teacher during the exam*
- b) *The school principal*
- c) *One of your parents, who is called to the school*

2. "Oh no! Look what's happened...!"

Place: A fast food restaurant, just before it closes for the night
Time: 10.55pm
Characters: You and another student
Situation: You have to finish a class project by tomorrow morning, with your mate, who is by now almost fast asleep after eating junk food continuously for four hours and doing absolutely no work on the project

Scenes: i) Try to get your mate to help you finish the class project
ii) After you are kicked out of the fast food restaurant, you go to your mate's house to work, but there are so many distractions there... Eventually you both finish the project, and you sleep over at your mate's house
iii) 8am. Time to get going! You go and grab the project, but find that during the night your mate's dog/cat/sister/elephant has completely destroyed it...!

If there are three people in the group, the third character could be:

- a) *The bad-tempered and sleep-deprived manager of the fast food restaurant*
- b) *Your mate's dog/cat/sister/elephant, etc.!*

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Role Play Extensions

Here are some additional situations for students to use as starting points for new role plays based on the topic of "Learning English":

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1. At a private language school: the school secretary finds out that you haven't paid your school fees for the past two months. Instead you have spent the money on living the life of an international movie star/super spy. Things take a turn for the worse after the school principal finds out, as well as your parents, and your friends all desert you because you're no longer throwing your money around...
2. It's your first day at work as an English language teacher. You are nervous because you have faked your certificates and CV, and have, in fact, never taught an English lesson before in your life. What will you teach? And how will your class – and school – react when they find out the truth? If they find out...

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