

**Subject Area:** English Language Arts  
**Unit Title:** Practicing Conversational English through Role-Playing and Storytelling Exercises  
**Grade Level:** 7-8  
**Lesson Number:** 1 of 10

**Duration:** 45 minutes  
**Date:** [Insert Date]  
**Teacher:** [Insert Teacher's Name]  
**Room:** [Insert Room Number]

## Curriculum Standards Alignment

### Content Standards:

- Students will be able to engage in conversations using basic phrases and vocabulary.
- Students will understand the importance of non-verbal communication in conversations.

### Skills Standards:

- Students will demonstrate the ability to listen actively and respond appropriately in conversations.
- Students will show an understanding of basic storytelling techniques.

### Cross-Curricular Links:

- English Literature: Storytelling and narrative structures.
- Drama and Theater Arts: Role-playing and improvisation.

## Essential Questions & Big Ideas

### Essential Questions:

- How can I effectively communicate in English using basic phrases and vocabulary?
- What role does non-verbal communication play in conversations?

### Enduring Understandings:

- Conversational English is essential for effective communication in real-life situations.
- Storytelling is a powerful tool for conveying messages and engaging audiences.

## Student Context Analysis

### Class Profile:

- Total Students: 25
- ELL Students: 5
- IEP/504 Plans: 2
- Gifted: 3

### Learning Styles Distribution:

- Visual: 40%
- Auditory: 30%
- Kinesthetic: 30%

## Pre-Lesson Preparation

### Room Setup:

- Arrange chairs in a circle for role-playing activities.
- Prepare whiteboard and markers for note-taking and illustrations.

### Technology Needs:

- Computer or tablet for playing videos or audio recordings.
- Internet connection for accessing online resources.

### Materials Preparation:

- Printed copies of role-playing scenarios and storytelling prompts.
- Whiteboard markers and eraser.

### Safety Considerations:

- Ensure a safe and respectful learning environment.
- Encourage students to respect each other's differences and opinions.

## Detailed Lesson Flow

### Minutes 1-5: Introduction and Icebreaker

- Introduce the topic of conversational English and its importance.
- Conduct an icebreaker activity to get students engaged and comfortable.

### Minutes 6-15: Role-Playing Activity

- Divide students into pairs and assign role-playing scenarios.
- Have students practice their conversations using the scenarios.

#### Engagement Strategies:

- Encourage active participation from all students.
- Use visual aids and props to enhance the role-playing experience.

### Minutes 16-20: Transition to Storytelling

- Introduce the concept of storytelling and its importance in conversations.
- Discuss basic storytelling techniques and structures.

### Minutes 21-25: Storytelling Exercise

- Have students work in small groups to create their own short stories.
- Encourage students to use descriptive language and sequence events logically.

### Minutes 26-30: Sharing Stories and Conclusion

- Allow each group to share their story with the class.

- Conclude the lesson by summarizing key takeaways and encouraging further practice.

## Differentiation & Support Strategies

### For Struggling Learners:

- Provide additional support and guidance during role-playing activities.
- Offer simplified versions of storytelling prompts.

### For Advanced Learners:

- Offer more complex role-playing scenarios and storytelling prompts.
- Encourage students to create their own role-playing scenarios and storytelling prompts.

### ELL Support Strategies:

- Provide visual aids and props to support understanding.
- Offer one-on-one support during role-playing activities.

### Social-Emotional Learning Integration:

- Encourage empathy and respect among students during role-playing activities.
- Discuss the importance of self-awareness and self-regulation in conversations.

## Assessment & Feedback Plan

### Formative Assessment Strategies:

- Observe student participation during role-playing activities.
- Review student-created stories for understanding of storytelling techniques.

### Success Criteria:

- Students can engage in basic conversations using role-playing scenarios.
- Students can create a short story using descriptive language and logical sequencing.

### Feedback Methods:

- Provide constructive feedback during role-playing activities.
- Offer written feedback on student-created stories.

## Homework & Extension Activities

### Homework Assignment:

Have students keep an English diary for one week, writing a short paragraph each day about their daily activities, thoughts, or feelings.

### Extension Activities:

- Create a podcast discussing a topic of interest.
- Write a short story using a prompt or theme.

### Parent/Guardian Connection:

Encourage parents/guardians to engage in conversations with their child, asking open-ended questions to promote language practice.

## Subject Knowledge

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### Concept 1: The Importance of Non-Verbal Communication

Non-verbal communication plays a crucial role in conversations, including facial expressions, body language, and tone of voice.

### Concept 2: Basic Conversation Structures

Basic conversation structures include greetings, introductions, and basic questions, which are essential for effective communication.

### Concept 3: Storytelling Techniques

Effective storytelling techniques include using descriptive language, sequencing events logically, and creating a clear beginning, middle, and end.

## Extended Knowledge

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Practicing conversational English through role-playing and storytelling exercises offers numerous benefits for language learners, including improved fluency, increased confidence, and enhanced creativity.

## Common Errors

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One common error language learners make is focusing too much on grammar and vocabulary at the expense of pronunciation and fluency.

## Objectives

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**Remembering:**

Students will be able to recall and list at least 5 basic conversational phrases used in introductions and greetings.

**Understanding:**

Students will understand and explain the importance of non-verbal communication in conversations.

**Applying:**

Students will apply their knowledge of conversational English by participating in role-playing exercises.

**Creating:**

Students will create their own short stories using basic narrative structures.

## Vocabulary

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**Key Terms and Phrases:**

- **Role-Playing:** A learning technique where students act out roles to practice real-life conversations and scenarios.
- **Storytelling:** The act of telling or recounting a story, often used to convey messages, share experiences, or entertain.
- **Non-Verbal Communication:** Communication that does not involve words, such as body language, facial expressions, and tone of voice.

## Resources

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**Whiteboard and Markers:**

For explaining key concepts, illustrating narrative structures, and noting important vocabulary.

**Role-Playing Scenarios Handouts:**

Printed or digital handouts that outline different scenarios for role-playing.

**Storytelling Prompt Cards:**

Cards with prompts or questions to inspire students' storytelling.

## Prior Knowledge

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Students should possess basic English vocabulary, simple sentence structures, listening comprehension, and cultural awareness to effectively engage with the lesson.



## Differentiation Strategies

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**Visual Aids for Visual Learners:**

Incorporate visual aids such as pictures, diagrams, and videos to support understanding.

**Simplified Materials for English Language Learners:**

Provide simplified versions of role-playing scenarios and storytelling prompts.

**Advanced Challenges for Gifted Students:**

Offer more complex role-playing scenarios or storytelling prompts.

## Cross-Curricular Links

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The lesson plan has connections to English Literature, Drama and Theater Arts, Social Studies, and Information and Communication Technology (ICT).

## Group Activities

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### **Role-Playing Scenarios:**

Divide students into pairs and assign different scenarios.

### **Story Sequencing:**

Prepare a set of story cards with different events written on them.

### **Conversational Charades:**

Adapt the classic game of charades to focus on conversational English.

### **Debate Preparation:**

Assign a simple debate topic relevant to teenagers.

## Digital Integration

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### **Virtual Role-Playing:**

Utilize online platforms or apps that allow students to engage in virtual role-playing scenarios.

### **Digital Storytelling Tools:**

Introduce students to digital storytelling tools like Powtoon, Adobe Spark, or Book Creator.

### **Language Learning Apps:**

Utilize language learning apps like Duolingo, HelloTalk, or Tandem.

### **Video Sharing Platform:**

Create a private YouTube channel or use a school-approved video sharing platform.

### **Online Discussion Forums:**

Set up an online discussion forum or use existing learning management system (LMS) tools.

## Review

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**Peer Feedback Sessions:**

Organize regular peer feedback sessions.

**Self-Assessment Checklists:**

Provide students with self-assessment checklists.

**Reflective Journals:**

Encourage students to keep reflective journals.

**Formative Quizzes:**

Administer formative quizzes at regular intervals.

**Class Discussions:**

Hold class discussions at the end of each week.

**Portfolio Review:**

Have students maintain a portfolio of their work throughout the course.

## Summative Assessment

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**Role-Play Performance:**

Students will be assessed on their ability to engage in a conversation using a given scenario.

**Storytelling Presentation:**

Students will be asked to create and present a short story.

**Conversational Dialogue Writing:**

Students will write a short conversational dialogue between two characters.

**Class Participation and Engagement:**

Throughout the lesson, students' participation and engagement in role-playing and storytelling activities will be observed and assessed.

## Conclusion

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In conclusion, practicing conversational English through role-playing and storytelling exercises is a highly effective and engaging way to improve language skills among 13-year-old students.

## Teaching Tips

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### **Encourage Active Participation:**

Encourage active participation from everyone.

### **Use Real-Life Scenarios:**

Using real-life scenarios for role-playing makes the activities more relatable and interesting for students.

### **Provide Constructive Feedback:**

Teach students how to give constructive feedback.

### **Incorporate Technology:**

Incorporating technology into role-playing and storytelling can add a new dimension of engagement and interactivity.

### **Make It Competitive:**

Introducing a competitive element can motivate students to participate more enthusiastically.

### **Follow-Up and Review:**

Finally, it's crucial to follow up and review the material covered in the role-playing and storytelling exercises.