

Lesson plan: reading a play with character voices

learning objective

Pupils will recognise how voice (pitch, pace, tone) signals character, and use this to deepen comprehension of a short play scene.

you will need

- One short scene from a play with at least three named characters.
- Wobble open in Books mode on a class screen, plus pupil devices if available.

starter (5 minutes)

Play the first 30 seconds of the scene with character voices. Ask: how many people are speaking? How do you know?

main (30 minutes)

- Open the Who's who panel. As a class, list each character and one word that describes how they sound.
- Read the scene a second time. Pause after each character speaks. Pupils write down one descriptor for that voice (gentle, gruff, hurried, wobbly).
- In pairs, pupils try to read two lines aloud in the voice they predict. Compare with Wobble's version.
- Optional: turn on the Reading ruler so the focus line stays with the active speaker.

plenary (10 minutes)

As a class, pick the line that surprised you most. Why? What did the voice tell you that the words alone did not?

assessment

Listen for pupils referencing voice qualities (not just words) when they explain what a character is feeling.