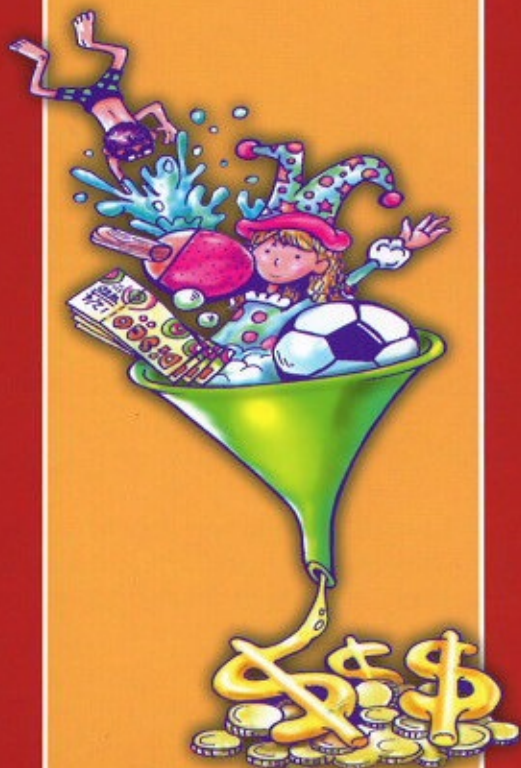


First Act

Book 2

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Illustrated by John Lam



*Stanford
House*

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Before you start

Useful expressions

First, make sure that you know and can use all the words and phrases on pages 5, 15, 26, 39 & 49 in Book 1 of FIRST ACT. They will all be useful in these plays, too.

What's up?

What's the matter?

What's up with you?

What's the matter with you?

Don't bother.

Don't fuss.

Don't worry about it.

What's it for?

How does it work?

What does it do?

That's great!

That's fine!

How delightful!

How wonderful!

That's marvellous.

Thank goodness!

Thank heavens!

What a relief!

That was lucky for us!

I'm afraid he did.

I'm sorry to tell you...

It's a pity.

It's dreadful.

What a terrible thing to happen.

We can't go on like this.

We can't make it.

2.i We need money!



Characters

ANNE
DAVID
PAUL

They are all students at a large school. They are discussing how to run the school activities club. There is no money for this.

ANNE: It's no good. We can't run the club on nothing.

DAVID: It's Martin's fault, you know. He was president last year. What a mess!

PAUL: Yes, I know. We all know about Martin. But that doesn't help us now. What are we going to do?

ANNE: Close the club?

PAUL and

DAVID: *(together in horror)* No, No. Of course not. Don't be silly.

ANNE: Well then, you think of something.

- DAVID: There must be something we can do.
PAUL: We've got to raise money somehow.
ANNE: Well, how?
DAVID: What about a disco?
PAUL: Where? And are the staff going to agree? I mean they're not always keen on that sort of thing.
ANNE: We can always ask. I think that's a good idea.
PAUL: But where can we hold it?
The common room? It's big enough.
ANNE: Well, it's an idea.
PAUL: Or how about a sports competition? We could have a table tennis tournament. And a football match. And maybe some athletics.
DAVID: And we could use the swimming pool for water sports. And have races and some funny competitions. Fancy dress or something.
ANNE: That would be fun.
PAUL: And a play, perhaps. Something funny.
ANNE: That would cost quite a lot. And we've got no money at all at the moment, you know.
PAUL: True. But maybe we could borrow some. We could always try.
DAVID: Maybe we could have the disco first and then the play?
ANNE: Or the sports competition?
DAVID: Isn't that going to be rather difficult to do?
ANNE: Well, let's decide on something and then make a plan.

First, check that you have understood the play

Comprehension questions

1. Why haven't they got any money?
2. What does Anne suggest? Do the others agree?
3. What are the two possible difficulties about holding a disco?
4. What does Anne think about the sports competitions?
5. What is the problem about doing a play?

Now you can finish the play yourselves.

Some ideas to help you

1. What do they finally decide to do? (Perhaps you have other ideas about how they could raise the money?)
2. Who will organise what?
3. Below there are some unfinished lists of things to do. Use these and the pictures on page 19 to help you.



Follow-up activities

1. Organise a class activity such as a sports competition or a party. Decide what you'd like to do and where. Appoint a committee with different responsibilities. Appoint a chairman to run the committee. Make a budget and decide what it is going to cost and how you are going to get the money.
2. Write a programme for a parents' day at your school. Give information about what they can do and see and where different activities are going to take place.
3. Write a letter to the local paper about either your parents' day or about the class activity you are organising. Suggest that they should do an article about it.
4. Draw a plan of the school and mark on it where the important rooms are so that the parents will know where to go.

Vocabulary

Club - Place where students can go to meet each other.

President - The person who runs the club.

What a mess - Everything is in a muddle, nothing is organised properly.

To raise some money - To get some money.

The staff - The teachers at the school.

The common room - The room where students can sit and chat.

Make a plan - Decide what to do.

Athletics - The sport of competing in track and field events.

Fancy dress - You dress up in funny clothes / you dress up as someone else (for example Mickey Mouse or a spaceman).