



BAL BHARATI PUBLIC SCHOOL, PITAMPURA, DELHI – 110034

SUBJECT: ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

CLASS – IX

Week: 11-15 JANUARY 2021

No. of Blocks: 3

TOPIC

IF I WERE YOU

SUB TOPIC

- Character sketches
- Theme
- Assignment Questions

Link of the chapter: <https://ncert.nic.in/textbook.php?iebe1=11-11>

Link of the video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LZaDV7rZohA>

TEACHING AIDS

- YOUTUBE
- SCREEN SHARING
- MS WORD

BLOCK1

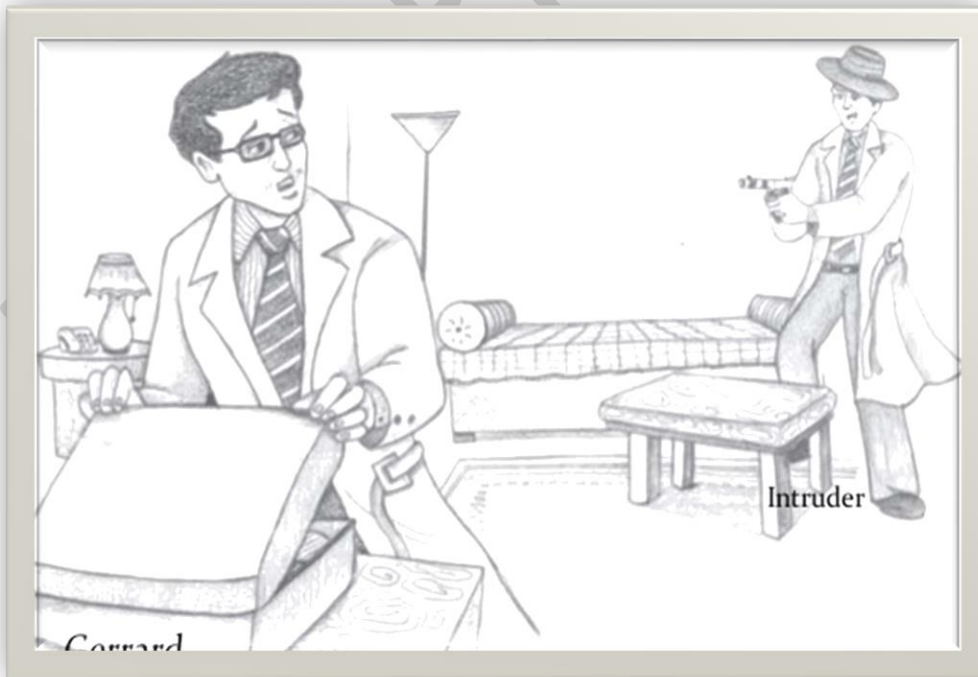
LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Each learner will be able to -

- Read and comprehend the play.
- List the unfamiliar words and deduce their meanings.
- Complete the graphic organizer.

ACTIVITY

Look at the picture carefully and guess what the play is all about?

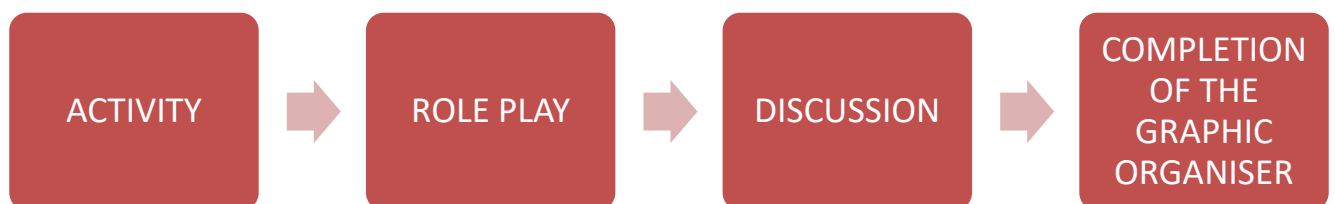


LESSON DEVELOPMENT

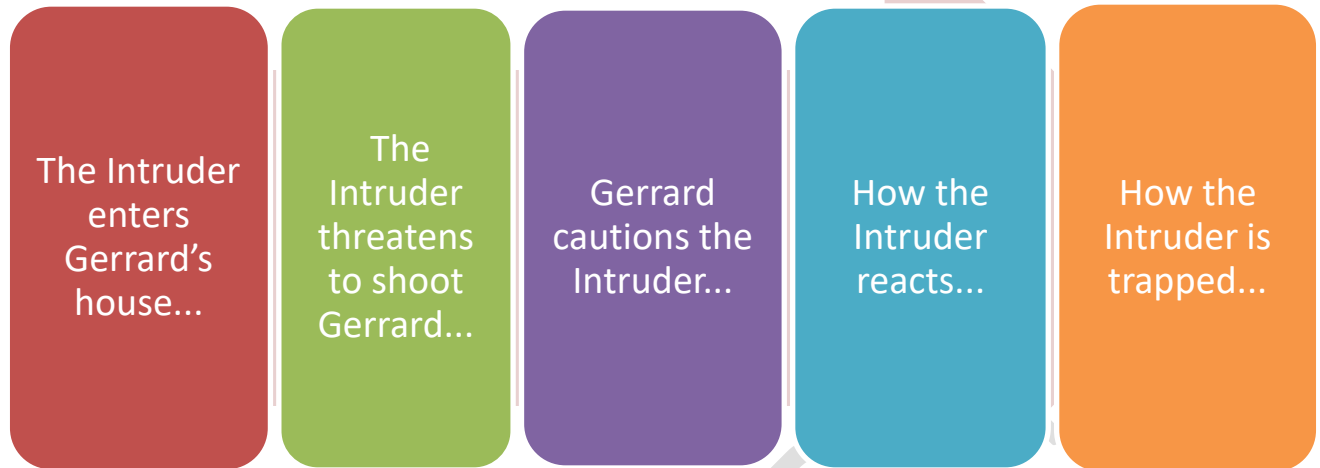
1. Introductory Activity
2. Silent Reading (Screen Sharing)
3. Complete the graphic organizer

Introduction

If I Were You by Douglas James is an interesting play that has mystery, suspense, surprise and humour. It is a story in which an intruder intends to kill Gerrard and impersonate him to escape the law, but the tables are turned on him as he is trapped due to Gerrard's presence of mind. The play thus brings out that intelligence and presence of mind can help us come out of the trickiest of the situations.



Complete the graphic organizer while reading the text.



BLOCK 2

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Discuss the theme of the play.
- Write the summary of the play.
- Analyze the title.
- Character-sketch of the main characters to be written.

ACTIVITY

- Recapitulation-Oral Questioning

Q1. What is Gerrard's profession?

Q2. Why does the intruder choose Gerrard as the man whose identity he wants to take on?

Q3. What trick does Gerrard play on the intruder?

LESSON DEVELOPMENT

- Recapitulation-Oral Questioning
- Summary of the play
- Discussion of the theme, title, character sketch

THEME

The theme of the play emphasizes the significance of intelligence, the presence of mind and a cool head in situations of crisis. Panic complicates matters but cool temperament can help one wriggle out of the tight corners with ease. Criminals, who mastermind most deceitful crimes, can also be outwitted because they have a fear of getting detected and caught by the law. Hence, a tactful planning and handling of a situation can trap even the so-called smart criminals.

TITLE

"If I Were You" is a very appropriate title. It refers to the wishful thinking of the intruder who wants to assume Gerrard's identity in order to escape the law. His idea of eluding the police by living on a borrowed identity remains unfulfilled as he is trapped by Gerrard and outwitted before he assumes his life. His dream to impersonate Gerrard is quashed and the 'If' in "If I Were You" looms forever with no hope of becoming a concrete reality. The title, therefore, hints at the basic idea of the story, and is, therefore, very apt.

SUMMARY

The play starts in the house of Gerrard. He is a playwright. We find that Gerrard is talking to someone on the telephone. He is going somewhere. So after the talk is over, he starts packing a travelling bag. Suddenly a man enters silently from the right. He is similar to Gerrard in appearance. He has a revolver in his hand. This intruder is a criminal. He orders Gerrard to put up his hands. Gerrard obeys him but is not afraid. He talks pleasantly to the intruder. The intruder warns to stop being smart and answers his questions. Gerrard says he cannot feel comfortable while his hands are up. The intruder asks him to sit in a chair.

From their conversation, we come to know about the intruder and also Gerrard. We come to know that Gerrard's full name is Vincent Charles Gerrard. He lives there alone. He has a car also. He is a sort of mystery man. Sometimes he is here and the very next day he is nowhere to be seen. He gives his orders on phone and never meets tradesmen.

Then the intruder tells Gerrard about himself. He is a criminal. He specialises in a jewel robbery. He has killed a policeman. Now the police are after him. He knows that he bears a resemblance to Gerrard. Then he tells his plan to Gerrard. He has decided to kill Gerrard and live there under the identity of Gerrard. From the intruder's way of talking, Gerrard guesses that he is a foolish, boastful man. It would not be difficult to get rid of this man.

Gerrard makes up a story. He says that he is also a criminal and a murderer. The police are also in search of him. That is why he lives in a mysterious way. He often disappears from there. He tells the intruder that it would be a folly to kill him. He killed him, he would be hanged, if not as himself, then as Gerrard. The intruder begins to think. This is an opportunity for Gerrard. He offers to take the intruder to a safe place in his car. He asks him to hurry up as the police may come there any time. The intruder is taken in. Gerrard opens a door and asks the intruder to enter it. He tells him that the door goes to the garage and they will escape in his car. Just the intruder turns his head to step in, Gerrard pushes him and knocks the revolver out of his hand. Then he shuts the door and locks it. In fact, the door does not lead to any garage. It is the door of his cupboard. The intruder shouts from inside to let him out. But Gerrard picks up the phone and tells the police to come. In this way, Gerrard saves his life by a clever trick.

CHARACTER SKETCH

Which of the words below describe Gerrard and which describe the Intruder? Write a paragraph about each one of them.

smart

humorous

clever

beautiful

cool

confident

flashy

witty

nonchalant

BLOCK 3

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Discuss and attempt the assignment questions.
- Complete the vocabulary-based exercise.

LESSON DEVELOPMENT

- Assignment Questions to be discussed.
- Vocabulary based table to be completed.

ASSIGNMENT QUESTIONS

Q1. **“At last a sympathetic audience.”**

1. Who says this?
2. Why does he say it?
3. is he sarcastic or serious?

Q2. Why does the intruder choose Gerrard as the man whose identity he wants to take on?

Q3. **“I said it with bullets.”**

1. Who says this?
2. What does it mean?
3. Is it the truth? What is the speaker’s reason for saying this?

Q4. What is Gerrard’s profession? Quote the parts of the play that support your answer.

Q5. “A mystery I propose to explain.” What is the mystery the speaker proposes to explain?

Q6. "This is your big surprise."

1. Where has this been said in the play?
2. What is the surprise?

Thinking about language

Consult your dictionary and choose the correct word from the pairs given in brackets.

1. The (site, cite) of the accident was (ghastly/ghostly).
2. Our college (principle/principal) is very strict.
3. I studied (continuously/continually) for eight hours.
4. The fog had an adverse (affect/effect) on the traffic.
5. Cezanne, the famous French painter, was a brilliant (artist/artiste).
6. The book that you gave me yesterday is an extraordinary (collage/college) of science fiction and mystery.
7. Our school will (host/hoist) an exhibition on cruelty to animals and wildlife conservation.
8. Screw the lid tightly onto the top of the bottle and (shake/shape) well before using the contents.

Q2. A word can mean different things in different contexts. Look at these three sentences:

- The students are taught to respect different cultures.
- The school is organising a cultural show.
- His voice is cultured.

In the first sentence, 'culture' (noun) means way of life; in the second, 'cultural' (adjective) means connected with art, literature and music; and in the third, 'cultured' (verb) means sophisticated, well-mannered. Usually, a dictionary helps you identify the right meaning by giving you signposts.

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Look up the dictionary entries for the words sympathy, familiarity, comfort, care, and surprise. Use the information given in the dictionary and complete the table.

| NOUN | ADJECTIVE | ADVERB | VERB |
|--------------------|-----------|--------|------|
| Sympathy | | | |
| Familiarity | | | |
| Comfort | | | |
| Care | | | |
| Surprise | | | |

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BBPS, PTTA, MP, URF