

Only Fifty Bucks

Readers' Theatre

The GFI play Only Fifty Bucks presents the story What a Wreck! as a drama. It includes five characters plus a narrator. This play can also be used as a lead-in to the story Old Heap (GFI second series).

After the students have read the story What a Wreck!, the play can be used with them as follows.

- Whole class (with one copy of the play per student or two students sharing one copy): Choose six students to read aloud each of the six parts; as these students read, the remaining students silently follow the text. Ask for new volunteers to read the part of their choice.

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- Group work (with six copies of the play per group): Six students choose a part each from the play, then read it through and prepare to present it to the other students in the class.

Following the reading and/or performance of the play students can undertake one or more of these activities.

- Discuss the presentation of each of the characters:
In what ways does the actor's speech reflect his/her character?
In what ways does the actor's behaviour reflect his/her character?
- Write a review of the play performance. Have the actors interpreted their character realistically?
- Choose one of the characters and write a personal response to the actor who represented that character, explaining what was best about his/her performance as well as what could have been improved and how.