

12B Design your own soap opera!

Use of gerunds and infinitives

DESIGN YOUR OWN SOAP OPERA!

All the characters below appear in a soap opera – your soap opera!

With your partner(s), look at the characters and decide:

- who is related/married to who
- what the people do for a living
- who are friends, colleagues or enemies
- where your soap opera is going to be set
- what your soap opera is called



Notes

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PLOT CARDS

Someone is having an affair with someone else's wife/husband/partner.	Someone has just found out they are pregnant.
Someone has stolen a lot of money.	Someone thinks their friend/partner is planning to kill someone.
Someone wants to split up with their boyfriend/girlfriend or get divorced.	Someone has just been shot.
Someone is in love with two different people.	Someone has just met an old friend who they thought was dead.
Someone has just found that their partner is the father of someone else's child.	Someone is going to kidnap someone else.

VERB BANK

agree	hope	offer	promise
decide	intend	plan	refuse
expect	manage	pretend	threaten
admit	avoid	love	risk
consider	enjoy	miss	can't stand
deny	hate	imagine	suggest

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Instructions

You will need: one 'Design your own soap opera!' worksheet *per student*; one set of Plot cards *per two or three groups of three students*; one Verb bank worksheet *per student*.

- Divide students into groups of three. Give each student a *Design your own soap opera! worksheet* and allow them time to do the task at the top of the page. Encourage them to make notes. Students report back to the whole class on their ideas.
- Prepare an envelope of *Plot cards*. (One set is enough for three groups, but extra *Plot cards* will allow students to swap any they do not want to use.) One student from each group chooses three *Plot cards* without looking inside the envelope.
- Students work in their groups and decide which character in their soap opera has the problems on the *Plot cards* and who else is involved. Encourage them to make notes at this stage.
- Students plan what happens in the next episode. Ask them to write their plan in note form only at this stage.
- Give each student a copy of the *Verb bank worksheet*.
- Students write what happens next using at least eight of the verbs (followed by either the infinitive or the gerund). They should write their episode as a narrative, not as a dialogue. They can use either the present or the past tense.
- The completed episodes can be read out or displayed.