

23 Eyewitnesses

Type of activity

whole class
information search

Function practised

talking about and sequencing past events

Exponent

past and past perfect tenses

. . . *was going to* . . .

. . . *was about to* . . .

sequence connectives: *after, then, before, etc.*

Lexical areas

everyday activities

Problem vocabulary

set (of tennis), florist's, pop into, bump into, overdue, -ish
(*elevenish = about eleven o'clock*)

How to use the game

The game may be played with 8–15 students. If you have more than 15, form two groups

Copy a role card and a map for every student in the class.

If you have fewer than 15 students in the class, make sure you include the first eight cards.

Give out the role cards and the maps and allow the students time to read and absorb the information and ask you questions if necessary.

Tell them that a young woman called Jennifer who lives in their town was kidnapped yesterday. They all saw Jennifer at some time yesterday, and by talking to each other about when they saw her and where, they can find out her movements during the day which will help them to find out where she is being held.

The object of the game is to find out where Jennifer is being held by the kidnappers. To do this, students should move about the room, talking to each other about when and where they saw Jennifer. They should try to reconstruct her movements during the day, by drawing her route in on the map. The building that is left unaccounted for at the end is the place where she is being held.

You saw Jennifer in the High Street. It was mid-morning – between 10 and 10.30, you think. She had just come out of the butcher's, and you went into the fruit shop together. She bought some oranges and a pound of plums. She invited you to join her for a cup of coffee in the 'Teacup' cafe, but you had to get home.

You had coffee with Jennifer in the 'Teacup' cafe in the High Street at about 10.30 yesterday morning. She had just finished her shopping and was going to meet a friend to play tennis. You went straight home after coffee.

You played tennis with Jenny yesterday morning. You had a court booked at the tennis club for 11 o'clock. You played three sets: you won the first and the last. After the game you went home for lunch and Jenny went off to meet another friend somewhere.

You had lunch with Jennifer in the Bull and Bush pub. She had just finished playing tennis. After lunch, you offered her a lift home, but she said she had to pop into the library.

You bumped into Jennifer in the library shortly after lunch. You both went back to your house for a coffee – it's just round the corner from the library. She couldn't stay long as she was expecting a friend to tea.

You work in the florist's just across the road from the library. Jennifer came in in the afternoon and bought some flowers. She said they were for a friend in hospital. She was in rather a hurry.

You went to Jennifer's house in Bush Street for tea yesterday afternoon. She had invited you round at 3 o'clock, but when you got there and rang the bell, there was no one there. You were wondering if you'd made a mistake when Jenny came hurrying round the corner. She was carrying a lot of shopping and a bunch of flowers. She'd just been to the flower shop to get some flowers for a friend in hospital. You had tea and chatted, and then she left to visit her friend in the hospital down the road.

You are a friend of Jenny's and you are in hospital at the moment. Jenny said she'd come and visit you yesterday afternoon at around four, but she never turned up.

