



**The Bear**  
Educational Theatre

[www.thebeartheatre.com](http://www.thebeartheatre.com)

# Teaching Materials to the show



**The Bear**  
Educational Theatre

*Theatre helping students  
to learn English*

## **Where is Andrew McStag**

**An interactive show  
for students of English.**



Winner of EU LABEL PRIZE



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**by David Fisher**

# EXERCISE 1

## Modal verbs

The show is a detective story where a student called Andrew McStag is missing from home and a detective is trying to work out where he is. The show contains a lot of modal verbs of deduction as people think about where Andrew may be and what may have happened. They are .....

***Must    May    Might    Could    Can't***

How can you use these words to express that something is ...

- i) 100% true            It \_\_\_\_\_ be true  
ii) 100% not true      It \_\_\_\_\_ be true  
iii) Possibly true        It \_\_\_\_\_ be true

Look at these sentences from the show. How would you translate them into your language?

- That can't be her real name.
- Andrew might be in the Happy Monkey Club.
- Andrew's friend Bernie may be able to help you.
- Agatha Goodbody could be mistaken.
- I think Andrew may have been kidnapped. (Careful - this is past tense)

## EXERCISE 2

### **Mrs McStag**

This dialogue from the start of the show sets out the story.

**Mrs McStag** - Novotny? I'm Mary McStag. Now listen. Don't talk, just listen. Ok. I have a son, Andrew. He is seventeen years old, he's very clever, he's very happy. Everything in his life is perfect. Ok? And then yesterday morning I went up to his room, and I found this..... It's a note.

**Detective** - I can see that it's a note.

**Mrs McStag** - So read it.

**Novotny** - Is this your son's handwriting?

**Mrs McStag** - Of course it is. Read it.

**Novotny** - (*Reads*) Dear mum and dad, I have left home. If you love me please don't try to find me, I need to be alone now. Bye, Andy.

I see. So, your son has left home.

**Mrs McStag** - Yes. He isn't at home now.

**Detective** - And what do you want me to do?

**Mrs McStag** - I want you to find him of course.

## **EXERCISE 2 continued**

What kind of person is Mrs McStag? How would you describe her? What about the detective, what is he like? In pairs read the scene based on how you think the characters are.

## **EXERCISE 3**

### **Questions to ask Bernie**

In the story, Mrs McStag gives the detective a contact to Bernie. The detective asks Bernie to come to his office, but first they ask the audience to think of some questions to ask Bernie.

So, Andrew is a student, he has left home and we want to find him. What would be good questions to ask his friend from school?

## EXERCISE 4

### Was Andrew happy at school?

The Detective asks this question to two different characters during the show.

**Detective** - *Mrs McStag, is your son really happy at school?*

**Mrs McStag** - *Of course. He is very successful at school.*

**Detective** - *Successful is not the same as happy. Was he happy?*

**Mrs McStag** - *Yes ..... I think so.*

**Detective** - *Bernie, is Andrew happy at school?*

**Bernie** - *Well, I don't know if any of us are really happy there. I mean it is a good school, but there is a lot of pressure on us, we have to be best all of the time.....*

What is your idea of success? What does the word successful mean to you? Can you be happy if you are not successful?

What is your idea of a good school? If you could make a perfect school, what would that look like?