

Something old, something new, something borrowed, something blue

6.1 A near-beginners' story

LEVEL	Near-beginners and above
LANGUAGE	Fluency in listening and speaking
TIME	20–30 minutes
PREPARATION	Find three or four magazine pictures large enough for the class to see. They should also be quite interesting and the sort of pictures which the children might know the English words for, for example: <i>man, house, dog, three, red</i> .
IN CLASS	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1 Show the class the magazine pictures. You can walk around to give individual children a closer look. Tell the class that you are going to help them to make a story.2 Ask the children to call out any words or phrases they can connect with the picture. Write these on the board, whatever they are. Group the words for each picture you show. Put up the pictures on the board with the words.3 Remind the children that you are going to tell their story. Ask them to tell you any more words they can think of related to the pictures and to a possible story.4 Use the children's mother tongue to help them to create a story based on the pictures and words they have in English. Retell the story to them in English, pointing to the pictures and the words.
FOLLOW-UP	Type or write out the children's story at home, making use of as many of their words and phrases as possible. Make a big book of it if possible (see 8.4). Take the story to the class and read it to them. In this way you will be able to read the story with the class very easily—and it will be their book!

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