Fake It till You Make It

Once we believe in ourselves, we can risk curiosity, wonder, spontaneous delight or any experience that reveals the human spirit.

—E.E. Cummings

How can you feel more confident?

In this unit, you will learn techniques for dealing with stress and boosting self-confidence. You will read comic strips about uncomfortable situations and brainstorm the characters' potential outcomes. Finally, you will create your own comic strip about increasing self-confidence.

- The prefix *un* means "not." Add *un* to each adjective to form its opposite.
- Match each opposite to its definition.

ADJECTIVE	OPPOSITE		DEFINITION
happy	unhappy	b	a) nervous, anxious
prepared			b) sad, discontented
afraid			c) not ready
easy			d) fearless, brave
healthy			e) not equal, wrong
fair			f) sick, unfit

• Highlight three adjectives in the chart that best describe you.

BREAK OPEN

Take a confidence quiz.

Take this quiz to find out how confident you are.

• Read each situation and choose the best answer for you.

Group:

- Add your points using the scoring chart on page 6.
- 1. Your friends want to go to the movies. You want to go to a concert. You:
 - a) go to the movies with your friends.
 - **b)** go to the concert alone.
 - c) try to convince your friends to go to the concert. If they disagree, go to the movies.
- **2.** A friend or family member breaks a promise to you. You:
 - a) ask them to explain their actions.
 - **b)** tell them it's OK, just don't do it again.
 - c) don't say anything and pretend it didn't happen.
- **3.** Your teacher criticizes your efforts on a project. You:
 - a) argue with the teacher.
 - **b)** look at the criticism and decide how to improve.
 - **c)** feel terrible and decide you are no good.
- **4.** You hate your hair today. At school, someone compliments your hairstyle. You:
 - a) smile and say "Thanks."
 - **b)** tell them they are crazy.
 - c) don't say anything. They are probably just being nice.
- 5. You look at yourself in the mirror. You:
 - a) are proud of your reflection.
 - b) smile.
 - c) look for flaws.

6. When you are working in a group in class, someone disagrees with your ideas. You:

Date:

- a) disagree and support your ideas.
- **b)** remain quiet and participate less.
- c) get angry and tell the person they are wrong.
- Your project is due tomorrow and you don't think you have enough time to do it. You:
 - a) ask someone for help.
 - b) give up.
 - c) work all night to get it done by yourself.
- **8.** You have an important decision to make. You:
 - a) make a list of pros and cons.
 - **b)** talk to friends and family to get their opinions.
 - wait until the last minute and flip a coin.

Date:

2) Learn to manage your stress.

A big part of becoming self-confident is learning how to deal with stress. In this listening activity, listen to learn how three teens manage their stress.

Before You Listen

• Complete the sentences with the vocabulary words.

-cause-	escape	hard	pressure
drama	grades	help	upset

- **1.** Before you can find a solution, you must find the <u>cause</u> of the problem.
- 2. Many teens feel that there is too much ______ in their lives. They live with too much emotion or stress.
- 3. I like to ______ from reality by watching television or reading a book.
- **4.** I get pretty good ______ in school, usually 70 percent or higher in most subjects.
- 5. Do you feel a lot of ______ from your parents to get good grades in school?
- 6. It can be ______ to ask someone for help.
- 7. Someone who is confident can ask for ______ easily.
- 8. I get ______ when someone criticizes me.

While You Listen

• In the chart, write a brief description of each stressful situation experienced by the teens as well as their solutions.

TEEN	PROBLEM	SOLUTIONS
Tara	school grades	schedule free time
Mike		
Tom (Mike's brother)		

After You Listen			
 Put a check mark next to s take a step back play drums schedule free time 	listen to music be with friends	☐ do yoga☐ be by myself	
 2. Ask a partner what h "What do you find m 3. Write a sentence ofference of the sentence of	ces. laining why this m e or she finds mos nost stressful?" ering your partner	ight be a good te because at stressful. Write t advice on how to	chnique for you.
a topic and research it o Tips to prepare for a Tips to prepare for a Tips for using yoga t Other:	tion give each othe on the Internet. test sports competition o deal with stress paper, write a sho	er ideas about hov n rt paragraph on th	w to manage stress. Choose
W		ook in While You I raph to describe yo starters to help yo	•

Group:

Date:

4

Name:

3

• Learn about confidence boosters.

Managing stress is one way to increase self-confidence, but what else can we do to feel confident?

- Read the list of confidence boosters and rate them from 1 (best) to 12 (worst) in your opinion.
- Share your rating with a partner.

CONFIDENCE BOOSTERS	MY RATING	PARTNER'S RATING
 Exercise. Exercise decreases your stress levels and improves your body image. 		
2. Do something you like every day.		
3. Stand tall. Good posture decreases stress hormones and increases confidence-boosting testosterone.		
4. Smile more often. People respond positively to someone who smiles.		
5. Wear clothes that make you feel good.		
6. Find a role model. Seeing someone else achieve success can help you be more successful, too.		
7. Set a small goal you want to achieve and plan the steps to achieve the goal.		
8. Teach someone. Being a mentor can show you how talented you really are.		
9. Tell yourself it's OK to fail or make mistakes.		
 Ask for help when you need it. Asking for help takes courage. It's a sign of strength, not weakness. 		
 Visualize yourself reaching your goals. Professional athletes use this technique with great success. 		
12. Change negative thoughts to positive ones. For example, change "I'm bad in math! I'll never pass this test" to "I find math hard. If I get some help, I can pass."		

- With your partner, decide which suggestions to include on your list of top five confidence boosters.
- Be prepared to defend your ideas. Use **Sentence-Wise** to help you.

	ightarrow ightarrow ightarrow Top Five Confidence Boosters	\Rightarrow
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		

Sentence-Wise		
In my opinion I think that What do you think?	I read that I believe this because Why do you say that?	Once, I felt this way when

• Write two or three sentences explaining your top confidence boosters.

We decided that the best actions are ____

We think they are the best because ____

SCORING FOR CONFIDENCE QUIZ, PAGE 2

1. a) 1 point	b) 5 points	c) 3 points	5. a) 5 points	b) 3 points	c) 1 point
2. a) 5 points	b) 3 points	c) 1 point	6. a) 5 points	b) 1 point	c) 3 points
3. a) 3 points	b) 5 points	c) 1 point	7. a) 5 points	b) 1 point	c) 3 points
4. a) 5 points	b) 1 point	c) 3 points	8. a) 3 points	b) 5 points	c) 1 point

30-40 points: You are quite self-confident! You believe in yourself and know that hard work leads to success. While you aren't shy to ask other people's opinions of you or your work, your own opinion is most important. **20–29 points:** Although you seem self-confident to others, you sometimes feel unsure and don't take criticism too well. With some effort, you can be more self-confident.

8–19 points: You care a lot about what other people think of you. New situations can make you feel out of control and stressed. There are a lot of things you can do to feel more confident. Keep reading to learn how!

MY TOTAL

Use humour to deal with stress.

One way to deal with stressful situations that can lower your self-confidence is through humour. Read the comic strips about stress and confidence on pages 8 and 9.

Before You Read

- Read each sentence and guess the meaning of the underlined word or expression.
- Circle the correct meaning.
 - 1. If you want to keep up with me, you will have to run faster!
 a) stay near, persevere b) fall behind c) think differently
 - **2.** I don't like to get up early in the morning.
 - a) climb b) dress c) move out of bed
 - Danny likes to <u>sneak out</u> of his house in the morning before anyone sees that he is gone.
 - a) go away secretly b) walk inside c) hide
 - 4. May I have it, please? <u>Come on</u>! I'm your friend!
 - a) Look smart! b) Don't do it! c) Do it!
 - **5.** Please don't freak out, but I can't find your dog.
 - a) be confident, b) panic c) run away stand tall
 - 6. Some celebrities become famous overnight.
 - a) over a long time b) over a short time c) never
 - **7.** I should study more if I don't want to <u>fail</u> my exam.
 - a) not pass b) succeed c) carry
 - 8. One day you will get over the fact that he broke your heart.a) imagineb) provec) accept
 - **9.** Less harmful <u>gateway</u> substances might cause people to have serious addictions.
 - a) poisonous b) habit-forming c) fence
 - **10.** Did you <u>notice</u> the new kid in class today?
 - a) see b) smell c) choose
- Write two more sentences using one of the underlined words or expressions in each.

1. 2.



BREAK IT DOWN Writing a Comic Strip



A comic strip tells a short story about a humorous situation, usually revealing something absurd or hypocritical. A single event is broken down into a few thoughts or a sequence of actions. The first frame usually sets up a problem or situation, creating an expectation. The last frame offers unexpected information that makes the situation funny. The illustrations may be very simple, but they are still effective. It is the situation that counts.

- Complete each sentence with a comic strip feature from the list.
 - frames images speech bubbles thought bubbles

Images

- _____ tell the story visually.
- __ contain dialogue; they are usually within a round outline.
 - contain inner dialogue or thoughts; they are usually within a cloud-shaped outline.
 - divide the story into a sequence of actions or events.
- Complete the flow chart to understand the sequence of events in comic strip 1.

FRAME 1 establishes the situation: one kid is pressuring another kid to try something.

Expectation: The pressure

is to try $_$

1		,
	FRAME 2 builds on the	(
	situation using dialogue.	
	The first kid worries	
	about	

FRAME 3 provides unexpected information. The conversation is about

not drugs!

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While You Read

• For each comic strip, complete the Problem column of the chart in the green section of **After You Read**.





Date:



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		Group:	Date:	
lou Read				1
d this list	of confidence-boosting	actions.	St	- ga car
repare or ropose yc sk for he augh at y and learn hlight th	practise in advance. our own solutions. lp. our mistakes from them). e actions you think could	 Schedule your then stick to the Make time for Get lots of slee Eat healthy for help resolve the situation far to suggest another action 	ne schedule. exercise. ep. ods regularly. s in the comic strips.	
	-	oblem in each comic strip. character in each comic st	rip gain self-confidenc	—— e.
	-	-	rip gain self-confidenc REAL SOLUTION	e.
uggest a	real solution to help the	character in each comic st		e.
uggest a COMIC STRIP	real solution to help the PROBLEM	character in each comic st COMIC IDEA It's peer pressure		e.

• Choose one of the comic strips. On a separate sheet of paper, rewrite the dialogue in the last frame to reflect the solution you propose.

The kid doesn't have

enough time to do his homework because

(4)

GRAMMAR BREAK Pronouns and Possessive Adjectives

Use pronouns to replace the names of people, places and objects that you already identified. The pronoun changes depending on its role in the sentence: subject or object. Use possessive adjectives to show *what* belongs to *which person*.

Practice

• Complete the examples in the chart with the missing pronouns and possessive adjectives. Use the comic strips on pages 8 and 9 to help you.

SUBJECT PRONOUN	OBJECT PRONOUN	POSSESSIVE ADJECTIVE	EXAMPLES
1.	me	my	should sneak out early today. Would
			anyone notice?
2. you	you	your	will lose job!
3. he	him	his	He thinks we have all night to do boring homework!
4. she	her	her	There is Katya Simmons is amazing!
5. it	it	its	Come on, just try Everyone's doing!
6. we	us	our	I can't get over how much homework have! teacher is so mean!
7. they	them	their	What don't know can't hurt

- Complete each sentence with a pronoun or a possessive adjective.
- Identify the subject of each sentence and write S above it.
- Identify objects with O, and possessive adjectives with PA.
 - s o s 1. ____ don't like homework. ___!t ___ isn't interesting to _____.
 - 2. She won the competition. I am going to congratulate _____.
 - 3. They don't like to wake up early. It is difficult for _____.
 - 4. We like ______ teacher. She is really funny.
 - 5. She often wears _____ hair in braids.
 - 6. Do you like _____ parents?
 - 7. I need ______ pen back! Please give it to ______.

To practise pronouns and possessive adjectives, do the Grammar Workshops on pages 20 and 21.



5 Learn how to be more self-confident.

Read pages from a movie script about how one teenage boy learned to be more self-confident at his new school.

Before You Read

- Imagine your little brother is starting at a new school. He is feeling nervous about meeting new people and fitting in. He asks you for advice.
- Write three suggestions to help him feel more self-confident.

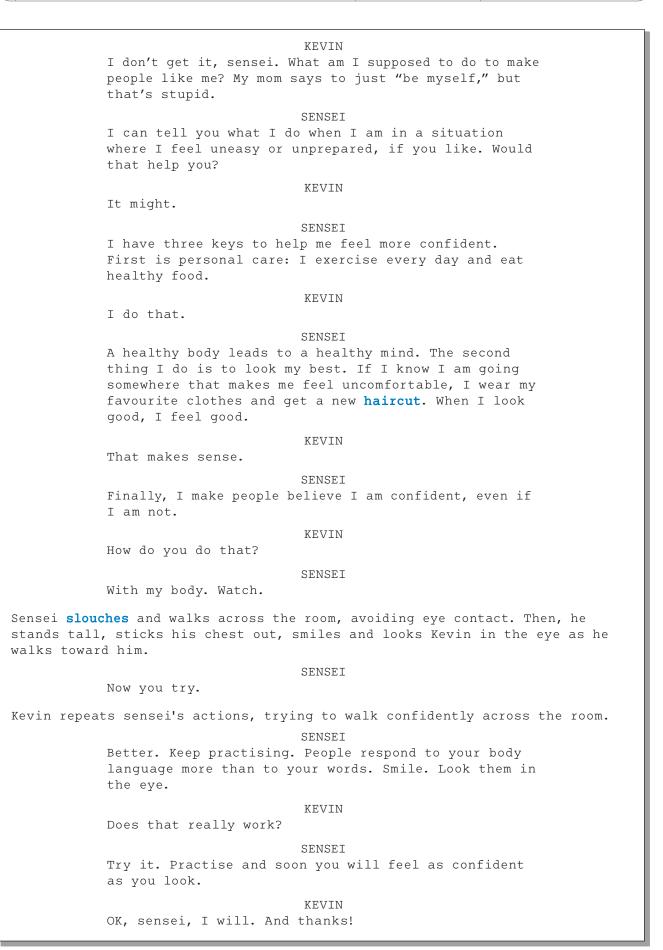
1.	
2.	
3	
5.	

While You Read

- Look at the script and answer the questions.
 - 1. Which words are in capital letters?
 - 2. Which words are centered on the page?
 - **3.** At the beginning of each scene, the abbreviation INT. means that it takes place in the INTERIOR or inside of a building. What do you think EXT. means?
 - 4. Highlight the solutions to Kevin's problems suggested in the script.



Word-Wise locker: storage space at school for books and other personal ob haircut: style of hair slouches: stands, sits or walks with bad posture Kevin's Fir INT. MODERN BATHROOM – MORNING KEVIN, age 15, stands in front of the mirror at his reflection. KEVIN You are such a jerk. No one's go cool. Just keep your head down one notices you.		
locker: storage space at school for books and other personal ob haircut: style of hair slouches: stands, sits or walks with bad posture Kevin's Fir INT. MODERN BATHROOM – MORNING KEVIN, age 15, stands in front of the mirror at his reflection. You are such a jerk. No one's go cool. Just keep your head down		
haircut: style of hair slouches: stands, sits or walks with bad posture Kevin's Fir INT. MODERN BATHROOM - MORNING KEVIN, age 15, stands in front of the mirror at his reflection. You are such a jerk. No one's go cool. Just keep your head down		
INT. MODERN BATHROOM — MORNING KEVIN, age 15, stands in front of the mirror at his reflection. KEVIN You are such a jerk. No one's go cool. Just keep your head down	objects	
KEVIN, age 15, stands in front of the mirror at his reflection. KEVIN You are such a jerk. No one's go cool. Just keep your head down	rst Day	
You are such a jerk. No one's go cool. Just keep your head down	or, toothbrush in hand, looking	3
INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY — SAME DAY Kevin stands in front of his locker , puttin walk by and stop.		2
GIRL 1 Oh my God! Did you see the new		
GIRL 2 Totally!		
GIRL 1 You can so tell that he is new		
Girls laugh and walk quickly away.		
KEVIN That's it! I don't need this!		
Kevin grabs his bag from his locker and wal	alks out of school.	
INT. DOJO/STUDIO — SAME DAY Kevin stands with other students in karate rings. Students bow to SENSEI and leave cla his things away slowly.		
SENSEI How are you, Kevin? Didn't you s this week?		
KEVIN Yes, sensei. I wish I hadn't. Ev I'm a loser.	Everyone there thinks	
Kevin puts his head down.		
KEVIN I didn't even make it through t girls started laughing at me ar		
SENSEI I see.		



Group:

After You Read

- List short-term and long-term self-confidence solutions from the script in the chart below.
- Add ideas to the chart. Use ideas from the unit, as well as your own ideas.

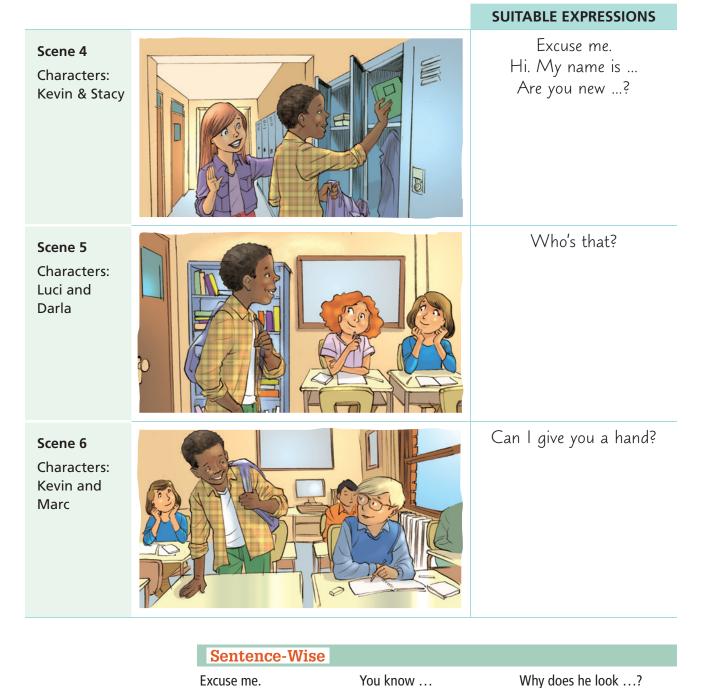
	SHORT-TERM SOLUTIONS (IMMEDIATE)	LONG-TERM SOLUTIONS (OVER TIME)	
_			
	Answer these questions.		
	·	em?	
	2. How does he deal with his pr	oblem at first?	
	3. What happens when he tells	his sensei about the problem?	
	4. Who could you go to for advi	ce or help if you had a problem? _	
•	 Imagine that Kevin goes back to explaining what you think happ 	o school the next day. Write a short eens next.	
	The next day,		
_	Sit with a partner and discuss w	hy you think the girls ran away wh	en Kevin said "Hi "
•	• On a separate sheet of paper, w	rite a short dialogue between the	girls explaining
	what they really think about Ke	vin. Each partner should take on th	ne role of one

of the characters and write what that character would say.Share your scene with another group or with the class.



6 Continue the script.

- Read the script on pages 13 and 14 out loud with a partner.
- Look at the pictures and continue the story: Kevin returns to school and uses some of the suggestions made by his sensei.
- Use the pictures and Sentence-Wise to help you.
- Continue each scene for as long as you can, writing suitable expressions next to the picture.



Hey there ...

Who's that?

Let me help you.

Can I give you a hand?

16

Sorry to interrupt.

I mean ...

Date:

YOUR TURN

Create a comic strip to promote self-confidence

Use what you learned about confidence building in this unit to create a comic strip for promoting self-confidence.

Step 1 PREPARE

- Choose a stressful situation where someone might not feel confident.
 - □ Meeting new people
 - □ Taking a test
 - \Box Giving a presentation in class
 - Other: ____
- Choose \Box a real solution or \Box a funny or unexpected result.
- Fill in the frame-by-frame flow chart. End the comic strip with a funny or real solution.

FRAME 1
Establish the situation.
FRAME 2
Build on the situation: What happens next?
FRAME 3
Provide a solution.

Step 2 WRITE

- Divide the action into three frames.
- Write a description above each frame.
- Quickly sketch the characters and scene.
- Remember to include all the features of a comic strip. See **Break It Down** on page 8.
- Write the dialogue at the bottom of each frame.
- Include at least one pronoun and one possessive adjective in your comic strip.

Where?	Where?
Who?	Who?
What are they doing?	What are they doing?
Dialogue:	Dialogue:
	Who?

Name:	Group:	Date:



Step 3 **REVISE**

- Read your comic strip dialogue again. Does it make sense? Is the message clear? Is the solution real or is it funny?
- Rewrite your dialogue.
- Remember to use at least one pronoun and one possessive adjective.

Dialogue:	Dialogue:	Dialogue:

Yes 🗌

Yes 🗌

No 🗌

No 🗌

Step 4 EDIT

- Read your text out loud to a partner. Do you hear any mistakes?
- Give your text to your partner. Does your partner understand your text?
- He/She understands my text. Yes 🗌 No 🗌
- Underline pronouns. Are they correct?
- Highlight possessive adjectives. Are they correct?
- Make appropriate changes.

Step 5 PUBLISH

- Draw the final version of your comic strip on a separate sheet of paper or publish it using software.
- Present your comic strip to the class.





Wonder (book) by R. J. Palacio

All the Wrong People Have Self-Esteem: An Inappropriate Book for Young Ladies (book) by Laurie Rosenwald

Freak The Mighty (book) by Rodman Philbrick

God Help the Girl (movie) by Stuart Murdoch

Little Miss Sunshine (movie) by Jonathan Dayton and Valerie Farris

Group:

GRAMMAR WORKSHOP 1

PROUNOUNS POSSESSIVE ADJECTIVES

SUBJECT PRONOUNS		
USE		
 To replace nouns acting as subjects. 		
EXAMPLE		
I like speaking to new people.		
You speak to Bill every day.		
He has our speech.		
She is confident with new people.		
It belongs to Sarah.		
We like to work with Todd.		
They look at the back of the room.		

OBJECT PRONOUNS		
	USE	
 To replace nouns acting as objects. 		
PRONOUN	EXAMPLE	
me	Please give the book to me .	
you	Bill speaks to you every day.	
him	We like to work with him .	
her	Go and speak to her .	
it	He has it.	
us	Look at us during the presentation.	
them	She smiles in front of them .	

Practice

- Underline the correct subject or object pronoun to complete each sentence.
 - 1. (They / She) is not a confident person.
 - 2. I need to find Paul. I want to speak to (us / him).
 - 3. (You / It) is difficult to be confident when someone attacks you verbally.
 - 4. (She / You) are hesitant in front of a group.
 - 7. Come with Sarah and me to the party. You can get a ride with (him / us).
 - 8. Today is Ann and Jerrod's presentation. Can you watch (us / them)?
- Write the correct subject or object pronoun to replace the underlined noun(s) in each sentence.

SENTENCES	PRONOUNS
1. Perry practises his presentation in front of <u>a mirror</u> .	
2. <u>Bill</u> is the most confident person I know.	
3. Wendal is going to the party with Mariko and Paula.	
4. Can you remember the main topic of the text?	
5. I don't think I can perform with <u>Thomas</u> .	
6. The teachers work together to help build our confidence.	
7. Sarah and I prepare a lot for a presentation.	
8. Could you please lend the book to Stephan and me?	



Practise subject and object pronouns online.

My eLab

Group:

Date:

POSSESSIVE ADJECTIVES		
USE		
• To indicate ownership: Your neighbour borrowed my scarf for the party.		
POSSESSIVE ADJECTIVE	EXAMPLE	
my	This is my friend Steve.	
your	I think this is your coat.	
his	Sven says this is his address.	
her	Mandy met her sister at the mall.	
its	The cat never stays in its yard.	
our	Our parents are very friendly.	
their	Their party was fun.	

Practice

- Underline the correct possessive adjective to complete each sentence.
 - 1. I can't wait for (her / my) next field trip. I like going to different places.
 - 2. Here is (our / your) teacher. We think she is better than your teacher.
 - 3. Susan is using (its / her) public speaking lessons to improve (her / our) confidence.
 - 4. We want to watch (him / his) presentation again. It is so funny!
 - 5. When I go to a new place, I always bring (its / my) friends.
 - **6.** Do you feel comfortable meeting new people without (your / my) friends? You always seem confident, even on your own.
 - 7. I can't forget to write (my / its) book report. It is due tomorrow!
- Write the correct possessive adjective to refer to the underlined word.
 - 1. This car belongs to Ted. It is ______ car.
 - 2. This progress report belongs to Mary and Tamra. It is ______ progress report.
 - 3. This bike belongs to me. It is _____ bike.
 - 4. Does this chair belong to you? Is it ______ chair?
 - 5. This game belongs to Steven and me. It is _____ game.
 - 6. Is this Bruce's bag? Is it _____ lunch?
 - 7. Have you seen Meredith? This is _____ bag.
 - 8. Where is the poster I left on the table? It is _____ poster for the presentation!

My eLab 🖉

online.

Practise possessive adjectives

Mixed Practice

Underline all the pronouns and possessive adjectives in the paragraph.

 Indicate above each word whether it is a subject pronoun (SP), object pronoun (OP) or possessive adjective (PA).

I am a quiet person and I hate to perform in front of a crowd. My best friend Phoenix loves to perform. She is a very confident person. People associate confidence with being sociable. Does it surprise you to learn that some people talk a lot because they feel insecure? These people usually have a hard time controlling their insecurities and talk through long pauses in conversations. Are you quiet and confident like me? I think silence is golden. Quiet people like me are golden, too!

- Complete the dialogue with the correct pronouns and possessive adjectives.
- Complete the dialogue and practise it with a partner.
 - TESSA: ______ still remember ______ first oral presentation. ______ was a disaster!
 - GEROME: Really? But ______ are so confident! _____ presentations are always great.
 - TESSA: ______ is because ______ first experience was so bad. ______ always try to prepare and practise, but when ______ work in teams, ______ isn't always possible.
 - GEROME: ______ know what ______ mean. Last time ______ worked with Jim, and ______ didn't go very well. ______ did all the work on the poster, and then ______ forgot to bring ______ to school!
 - TESSA: Did ______ lose marks? That is ______ biggest fear!
 - GEROME: ______ can't remember, but the teacher _____
 - TESSA: ______ didn't prepare enough the first time, and ______
 - GEROME: What do ______ usually do when ______ are nervous?
 - TESSA: ______. How about _____?

GEROME: ___