

# 1 The Exam

## Characters

Write your name next to the character that you play.

Three school friends:

Maria (girl) \_\_\_\_\_

Tom (Kelly's boyfriend) \_\_\_\_\_

Kelly (girl) \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher (male or female) \_\_\_\_\_

Adam (boy) \_\_\_\_\_

Other students (non-speaking) \_\_\_\_\_



### Scene 1: Outside the school gates.

*Kelly runs after Adam and Maria.*

**Kelly:** Hey, Maria! Adam! Wait for me!

**Adam:** Hi, Kelly!

**Maria:** Hi, Kelly!

**Adam:** How are things?

**Kelly:** Great!

**Maria:** Did you do anything interesting at the weekend?

**Kelly:** Tom and I went to that new club, Ego.

**Adam:** What's it like?

**Kelly:** It's fantastic. They've got a brilliant DJ. We danced all night.

**Maria:** Kelly, you haven't forgotten about tonight, have you?

**Kelly:** Uh ... I ... er ...

**Maria:** Kelly! We're going to revise for the chemistry exam. We arranged it last week. Don't you remember?

**Kelly:** Oh, I'm so sorry, Maria. I forgot! I'm going out with Tom this evening. But we can do our chemistry revision next week, OK? We've got three weeks before the exam.

**Maria:** Well ... all right. But I really need some help.

**Adam:** I'd love to help, but I dropped chemistry last year. I've forgotten everything.

**Kelly:** Chemistry's not my best subject either. I'm not sure if I'll be much help.

**Maria:** Two heads are better than one! And you did promise ... But I suppose you're right. We've still got time.

**Kelly:** Oh, there's Anna. I promised to lend her a CD. I've got to go. See you later.

**Maria:** OK. Bye.

*Kelly leaves.*

**Maria:** Adam, I'm really worried about Kelly.

**Adam:** Why, what's the matter?

**Maria:** We used to be best friends but since she started going out with Tom, I don't see her much anymore. She's only interested in Tom.

**Adam:** Don't you like him?

**Maria:** Well ... no. He's having a bad effect on Kelly's schoolwork. She used to be top in everything. I know she hasn't been doing her homework recently.

**Adam:** There's still a bit of time before the exams.

**Maria:** But I know she's not doing any revision, Adam. She's not interested in revision. She doesn't think about anything else except Tom.

**Scene 2: Two weeks later in the school corridor during a break in lessons.**

*Maria bumps into Tom and Kelly.*

**Maria:** Oh hello, Kelly! Hi, Tom!

**Tom:** Hi, Maria. I haven't seen you for ages.

**Kelly:** Maria, sorry I haven't helped you with your revision yet, but I've been really busy.

**Maria:** Don't worry. What about tonight?

**Kelly:** Oh, sorry, Tom and I are going to the cinema tonight.

**Maria:** Tomorrow?

**Kelly:** I promised to help my mum. Actually, Maria, I'm late for a drama lesson. I've got to go.

**Maria:** It's OK, I understand.

**Kelly:** Sorry, Maria. I'll call you at home.

*Kelly leaves.*

**Maria:** Yeah. Bye, Kelly.

**Tom:** Maria?

**Maria:** What?

**Tom:** You seem a bit miserable lately. Is there a problem?

**Maria:** No, I'm not miserable. I'm just worried about Kelly. I think she's going to fail her exams.

**Tom:** You're joking! Kelly's the best in the whole class.

**Maria:** Well, she was the best ... before she met you.

**Tom:** What are you trying to say?

**Maria:** You know what I'm trying to say, Tom.

*Maria walks away.*

**Scene 3: In the examination hall one week later.**

**Adam:** I'm so scared! I get really nervous before exams.

**Tom:** Me too.

*Kelly arrives, looking pale and serious.*

**Tom:** Hi, Kelly. How are things?

**Kelly:** I feel terrible.

**Tom:** Don't worry. You'll be fine. Let's sit next to each other.

**Teacher:** Silence everyone! You have two hours to complete this history exam. No cheating. You will fail the exam if you are caught cheating. Is everyone ready? You may begin.

**Tom:** (to himself) Right. Let's look at the questions. I can answer the first question. And this one! What a relief.

*Tom leans to one side and reads what she has written.*

**Scene 4: In the examination hall, an hour later.**

**Teacher:** You've got half an hour left.

**Tom:** (to himself) Right, last question.

**Tom:** What's that noise?

**Tom:** (to himself) I don't believe it! Kelly's answers are exactly the same as mine! She's used exactly the same words! What's she been doing? Has she been copying from me? What are the teachers going to think?

*Maria looks across and sees Tom reading Maria's exam paper.*

*Kelly is getting up, putting on her coat and walking out.*

**Maria:** (to herself) I knew it! Tom's cheating. He's copying all his answers from Kelly's paper!

**Tom:** (to himself) What? Kelly's leaving already? I don't think she's finished her paper. Maybe she's ill! I'll just lean over a bit like this so I can see how much she's written.

**Comprehension check**

- 1. What did Kelly promise Maria?  
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- 2. Why can't Kelly keep her promise to Maria?  
.....
- 3. How does Kelly try to make Maria feel better about the revision work?  
.....
- 4. Why can't Adam help Maria?  
.....
- 5. Why doesn't Maria like Tom?  
.....
- 6. What does Tom ask Maria?  
.....
- 7. How does Kelly feel on the first day of the exams?  
.....
- 8. What does Tom think about the questions on the exam paper?  
.....
- 9. What does the teacher tell the class about cheating?  
.....
- 10. What does Maria think when she sees Tom looking at Kelly's paper?  
.....

# What happens next?

Read these three suggestions for what happens next.  
Explain why they are good ideas or bad ideas. Then choose the way you'd like the play to end.

**1** 30 minutes later

**Teacher:** Can you all stop writing, please?

**Maria:** Mr(s) Fisher, can I have a word with you please?

**Teacher:** Yes, Maria, what is it?

**Maria:** Tom's been cheating. He's been copying from Kelly's exam paper.

I think this is a good idea because

.....

.....

I think this is a bad idea because

.....

.....

**2** **Tom:** (to himself) Oh no! What can I do? I know. I'll change some of my answers. I've got half an hour. I don't want the teachers to think I've been cheating, and I don't want Kelly to get into trouble.

I think this is a good idea because

.....

.....

I think this is a bad idea because

.....

.....

**3** **Maria:** (to herself) This is really bad! I'm going to tell Kelly about this after the exam.

I think this is a good idea because

.....

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I think this is a bad idea because

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.....

I think the best ending for the play would be