

# Ex Poser

## Key

### Before Reading Story Building

1. Questioning 2 rich kids. 'Even things up' – exact some kind of revenge
2. Lie detector
3. 7 (not including trial question(s))
4. Students choice; get them to work in small groups or pairs

### Characters

	Sandra	Ben	Boffin	Narrator
Has blonde hair	✓	✓		
Asks questions				✓
Changes colour	✓	✓		
Has blue eyes	✓	✓		
Is clever			✓	
Has spots				✓
Has fashionable clothes		✓		

### Context Word Play

1. All homonyms
2. (Turkey/peru) Homophones

### Weather Rapport

Hurricane	neve
Sleet	aguaceiro
Snow	furacão
Shower	nevoeiro
Fog	geada
Frost	neve que cai misturada com chuva

3. 1a 2c 3a 4c 5b 6a/b 7c 8c 9a 10c (no frost with rain)

4. REPORT INFORMATION  
 RAPPORT HARMONY  
 RAP MUSIC  
 (W)RAP UP FINISH

WEATHER CLIMATE  
 WHETHER IF  
 FREAK CRAZY  
 SOAR GO UP

5. Open discussion

6. weather/whether rapport/report raps up/ report (weak, I know!)

### Colours

Colour	UK definition	Portuguese definition
green	anger	
yellow	depression	
blue	purity	
red	jealousy	
black	sadness	
pink	cowardice	
white	health	

Colour	Europe	China	Japan
Blue	sad, calm	immortality	
Green	envy/new/environment	cheating	
Yellow	cowardice/joy		courage
Orange	harvest/creativity		
Pink	feminine		both sexes
Red	danger/ love	Brides/luck	
White	purity/ peace		death
Black	funerals	young boys	

### Poem

By a black South African. Ironic; challenging

### True/False

1 T 2 F 3 T 4 T 5 F

### Activity 1

This works best if questions are constructed to prompt 'yes/no' answers. To practice this, try "Twenty Questions" with the class. Think of an object (person, animal, vegetable or mineral) and give them the first letter. They then have to ask you a maximum of 20 questions to which you can only answer 'yes' or 'no', and in this time guess the object you have thought of.

### Activity 2

Explained in detail in the text. Spend time with the 'alibis' group, and make sure they understand that the smaller their 'window' of activity for the supposed crime (i.e. their time together) the easier it is for them,. Explain to the larger group that the more detailed they are in their questioning (e.g. 'what was the colour of...?' etc) the more likely they are to catch the alibis out.

### Activity 3

This is based on the game 'Taboo'. Simply put, the players take it in turn to be the 'player' who chooses a 'victim'. They do this by reading a one of their given predicament cards, which have been distributed equally amongst the players, and deciding how the 'victim will respond and indicating this by their card which is placed face down. They ask the victim the question and the victim replies by indicating with a 'yes', 'no' or 'depends' card. This is compared with the players card, which is now turned face up. If the same, the player wins, and the victim gets to keep the predicament card. If they are different, then the victim may be asked to justify the answer to the satisfaction of the other players. If the victim chooses 'depend' then he has to justify his or her choice. The next player (to the left of the first player) then chooses their own victim (at random) and so on. The first person to be without any predicament cards is the winner.

### Biography

#### D B C A

Q1 d) wonderful

Q2 NOT air raid; being bullied; seeing a monster; school holidays

Q3

+	-	?
Influential teacher Mum's cooking	Feeling inferior Being frightened	Sea voyage

Q4 Have to work in spare time until they know they can 'make it'

Q5 Open questions. Balance between personal, ambition and influences

### Word Work

#### Language in Context

1. inverted 2. present simple / present perfect 3. auxiliary verb 4. use of present perfect

- |                            |          |
|----------------------------|----------|
| 1. You are a girl.         | be       |
| 2. You have kissed Ben Fox | kiss     |
| 3. You have held his hand  | hold     |
| 4. You are in love         | be       |
| 5. He has got blue eyes    | have got |
| 6. He is an idiot          | be       |

2. Are you very happy?
3. Have you lived here for a long time?
4. Have you ever been to a football match?
5. Have you (ever) eaten pizza?
6. Are you 12 years old?
7. Are you clever?
8. Have you got an eccentric family
9. Have you many questions to ask?
10. Have you always supported Benfica?

## Reporting

I decided to put Sandra and Ben out of their agony. I wouldn't actually name him. I'd (would) spare her that. I asked if he was in that room. She looked at the red Ben Fox and said yes. The needle pointed to TRUTH.

I asked her if he had blue eyes. She said no. I asked if he brown eyes (I said brown?). She said no again.

I didn't know what to say next. I looked at each kid in the class very carefully. Ben Fox had blue eyes. I had been sure that she loved him. I said to Boffin that that thing didn't work because I couldn't see one kid who didn't have either blue eyes or brown eyes. Boffin said that they could. They were all looking at me.

## After Reading

### Checking

(x= not in story

✓=in story)

- x ANGER
- x ASSISTANCE
- ✓ DETECTOR
- ✓ EMBARRASSED
- ✓ GREEN-EYED
- x HATRED
- ✓ KISSED
- ✓ LIE
- ✓ LOVE
- ✓ PIMPLES
- ✓ POSER
- x RIVALRY
- ✓ SNOBS
- x STUPIDITY
- ✓ TRUTH

Y	E	U	D	S	P	R	A	D	E	D	D
T	P	C	A	E	E	O	E	C	E	H	E
I	I	W	N	G	Y	R	S	S	V	T	T
D	M	K	N	A	T	E	S	E	L	U	E
I	P	A	I	A	T	A	N	W	R	R	C
P	L	E	H	S	R	S	S	E	V	T	T
U	E	H	V	R	S	L	I	N	E	J	O
T	S	M	A	O	I	E	Z	S	O	R	R
S	H	B	I	E	L	B	D	C	S	B	G
O	M	R	I	V	A	L	S	W	O	A	S
E	T	M	V	U	S	R	B	Z	S	G	Y
M	B	E	P	O	A	S	Y	X	D	I	L

Y	E	+	D	+	P	R	+	D	+	D	D
T	P	C	+	E	E	O	E	+	E	H	E
I	I	+	N	G	Y	R	S	+	S	V	T
D	M	K	N	A	T	E	S	+	E	L	U
I	P	A	I	A	T	A	N	+	W	R	R
P	L	E	H	S	R	S	S	+	E	V	T
U	E	+	V	R	S	L	I	+	N	E	J
T	S	+	A	O	I	E	+	S	O	R	R
S	+	B	+	E	L	+	D	+	S	B	G
+	M	R	I	V	A	L	S	+	+	+	+
E	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+

(Over, Down, Direction)  
 ANGER (3, 5, NE)  
 ASSISTANCE (11, 10, NW)  
 DETECTOR (12, 1, S)  
 EMBARRASSED (1, 11, NE)  
 GREEN-EYED (12, 9, NW)  
 HATRED (4, 6, NE)  
 KISSED (3, 4, SE)

LIE (7, 7, SW)  
 LOVE (6, 9, NW)  
 PIMPLES (2, 2, S)  
 POSER (6, 1, SE)  
 RIVALRY (3, 10, E)  
 SNOBS (8, 6, SE)  
 STUPIDITY (1, 9, N)  
 TRUTH (11, 6, N)

## Further Reading

Allow interpretations to be subjective. However, note that 'so and so' can just mean anonymous people, but can also imply annoying people (old fashioned phrase, but still acceptable). There are lots of positive elements to the poem – favourite place/good fun/ seem well/ just great/ that's wise etc. The last line suggests that the poet might also be flower, but this is very arguable!