NO SUBSTITUTE FOR LIFE

Before listening to the story

Lead in...

- What tips would you give to a substitute teacher in your school?
- What should she/he do to get on well with the class?
- Is there anything the substitute teacher should avoid doing? An activity? A way of working? A way of communicating with the class? Other?
While listening to the story

Finish the sentences in a way that corresponds with the story

1. Mr Brown, the French teacher was sick again, maybe because of ...
2. Substitute teachers were more fun because they ...
3. Whenever we have a substitute teacher we ...
4. Madame Lutin wore ...
5. David made a joke about ...
6. When Madame Lutin stood next to Janey, David ...
7. The paper aeroplane ...
8. Madame Lutin forced David to ...
9. In the corridor David ...
10. The headmaster ...
11. The school ...
12. When David left the headmaster’s office, he...

After listening to the story

Discussion

- Is it a myth that pupils behave badly when they get a substitute teacher? If not, why do you think they behave badly?

- Would you like to take the job as a substitute teacher? Why? Why not?

- What can pupils do to help substitute teachers succeed in their job?
Grammar – some / any – something/anything – somebody/anybody/nobody

Fill in the correct words. Choose from: some/any/something/anything/somebody/anybody/nobody

The class didn’t have ……………………… idea where Mr. Brown was. They behaved badly during the last French lesson and did ………………… bad things to him, but it wasn’t ……………………… personal.

Madame Lutin had no understanding for teenagers who wanted to play tricks on their substitute teacher. She had ………………… rules, which the class had to follow. If ………………… did not do that, he or she had to go to the headmaster immediately.

David joked with Madame Lutin, who didn’t have ………………… sense of humour. She hypnotised David and sent him to Mr. McDonald, the headmaster.

In the corridor, there was ……………………… else.

David talked to a pupil and noticed that he also had a substitute teacher called Madame Lutin. Through a window in a door he saw another Madame Lutin in a third classroom.

Mr. McDonald explained the situation to David. The school didn’t have …………… money and Mr. McDonald saw the chance of saving ………………… by hiring a ghost, Madame Lutin, as a substitute teacher. She didn’t want ………………… salary, only ………………… other small favours that the headmaster could arrange for free.
Creative writing

- Write your own story about a scary or a nice substitute teacher who makes an ordinary school day very different.

- Write a story about a ghost that haunts the corridors in a school.

- Write some instructions for a substitute teacher at your school. What should she/he do? What should he or she not do? What rules must he/she follow to be a successful substitute teacher?
Cut out the pictures below and place them in the correct order together with the text on the following page:
I left his office and closed the door. A ghost as sub? No wonder a paper plane didn't work. Hmm, how about if it was made out of a Bible page? Walking off to lunch, I began to think up some ideas....

Lutin, didn’t that mean rabbit? I asked.

There was a teacher at the desk, although I hadn’t heard the door open. It was a woman, quite young, in a long black skirt and white blouse. She had her hair tied back in a bun, and wore sunglasses that made it hard to see her eyes.

Right in front of me was Madame Lutin! I stood there gaping at her. She looked me up and down, and reached up to her glasses. She pulled down her sunglasses over her nose. But behind them was nothing. Nothing. Just two black, empty sockets, sucking me in like cold, windy caves.

Mr. Brown was sick. Again. Maybe it was our fault, we weren’t the most obedient class in the world, and I guess the strain of controlling us would make most people sick after a while. But what did they expect? French was a boring subject and you just had to play around sometimes. And it meant... a substitute teacher! Subs were more fun than Brown.

This place has always been haunted, some ghost from the 17th century or something. A woman and her son died together. Madame Luton is saving us! A teacher who can take two or five or ten classes at once. And she doesn’t need to be paid!

Then the teacher walked slowly down the aisle between the desks and reached up, and grabbed it. Dauid!" She said it in a French accent, which annoyed me even more. "You’ve been naughty, little boy,” she whispered. You will report to the headmaster’s office. Maintenant!”

I folded up a piece of A4 white paper into an aeroplane. I threw it and my little A4 jet fighter was sailing beautifully over the heads of the guys in front of me, making its way speedily to the corner of the room -until it stopped. It stopped in mid-air.

In room 45B there was a woman with a white blouse, black skirt and glasses teaching some spotty class of 4th graders! I stood outside the door, trying to get a really good look at her, when it opened and a scared-looking kid came out. I grabbed him by the collar.

I woke up in the headmaster’s office. I was sitting in a big leather chair, and old Mr. Macdonald was waving a newspaper in my face.” Ah, David Miller. So you’re awake! Good, good.

The sub teacher was standing there, looking at Janey. Janey’s face went as white as the teacher’s blouse, and she shut her mouth with a quivering lower lip. Her eyes were wide open and it seemed like she couldn’t take them off the sub’s face. After a few seconds I felt more than saw the black skirt move away, and Janey sat completely still, her staring eyes not moving or blinking.
LEARN TO FOLD THE PAPER PLANE FROM "NO SUBSTITUTE FOR LIFE"!

HOST LIKELY TO DISTURB UNWANTED SUBS

FOLD THE PAPER LENGTHWISE. THEN FOLD TWO CORNERS TOWARDS THE CENTER LINE.

NOW FOLD THE TIP OF THE PAPER ALMOST ALL THE WAY TO THE OTHER END. MAKE SURE YOU FOLD THE TIP TO THE CENTER LINE.

FOLD THE TWO CORNERS TOWARDS THE CENTER.

FOLD THE TRIANGLE BACK OVER THE TWO CORNERS.

FOLD THE TOP PART OF THE PAPER TOWARDS THE BOTTOM. PRESS.

FOLD ONE HALF OF THE PAPER ALONG THE CENTER LINE.

LET YOUR PLANE TAKE FLIGHT!!

OPEN THE WINGS & .......

WELL DONE!
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Madame Lutin had no understanding for teenagers who wanted to play tricks on their substitute teacher. She had some rules, which the class must follow. If somebody did not do that, he or she had to go to the headmaster immediately.

David joked with Madame Lutin, who didn't have any sense of humour. She hypnotised David and sent him to Mr. McDonald, the headmaster.

In the corridor, there was nobody else.

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Mr. Brown was sick. Again. Maybe it was our fault, we weren’t the most obedient class in the world, and I guess the strain of controlling us would make most people sick after a while. But what did they expect? French was a boring subject and you just had to play around sometimes. And it meant... a substitute teacher! Subs were more fun than Brown.

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“Good morning class. Bonjour! Alors, maintenant,” she started saying. “Je m’appelle Madame Lutin,” she said.”

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