

Safety Soap

TV soap operas are a popular form of entertainment, featuring regular characters and ongoing storylines. They are often set around a public place, like a pub or hospital, where there's a lot of drama and emotions run high. They follow the lives of the local community and we often get insights into their 'home lives'.

Discuss any soap operas you've seen. Do any particular characters or events stick in your mind? What incidents have been portrayed around safety in the home?

In groups, you are going to create one or two scenes for a new soap opera, set in the Accident and Emergency ward of a hospital. The scene/s should feature at least two different types of home injuries and the dialogue should let the viewer know how they happened.

Characters might include doctors, nurses, paramedics, receptionists, people with injuries, relatives, friends and receptionists.

You could either:

- use role-play and improvisation (making it up as you go along) to explore different ways that the plot might develop,

or...

- carefully plan a structure for the scene/s, so that you know what will happen in the beginning, middle and end.

Remember that the opening of the scene/s should grab the viewers' attention straight away and the end should leave them wanting more.

Challenge

Write out your scene/s as a script. Make the directions clear, so the actors know what to do or how to say the lines. Give your script to another group to act out.