

Worksheet

1 What is the play about?

Here are some words and phrases from the play:

cutting down	Friday night	darts	a splitting headache
clubbing	dance music	booze	get into shape

1. Where do you think the play is set?

- a. in a restaurant b. in a pub c. in a doctor's surgery

2. What do you think the play will be about?

- a. going out at the weekend b. drinking too much c. violence

2 Vocabulary

Match these words from the text with their meanings.

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| 1. plonker | a. go somewhere quickly and for a short time |
| 2. peckish | b. alcoholic drink |
| 3. booze | c. a stupid person |
| 4. love handles | d. unpleasantly wet and soft |
| 5. nip | e. slightly hungry |
| 6. soggy | f. areas of fat at the sides of someone's waist |

3 Find the colloquial expression

Look in the play and find the following words and phrases. Note that they are in the order in which they appear in the play.

1. a three-word expression meaning *it's my turn to buy the drinks*
2. a four-word expression meaning *a fight has started*
3. a four-word expression meaning *to give your opinions about something in a loud and annoying way*
4. a three-word expression meaning *the police*
5. a three-word expression meaning *wait a second*
6. a three-word expression that is a euphemism for *toilet*

LISTENING SKILLS WORKSHEET

Mini-plays

by Tim Bowen and Liz Plampton

Worksheet

4 Colloquial language: Ellipsis

Which words are missing from these examples from the play?

1. You clubbing tonight?
2. ... know what I mean?
3. Said to tell you she was just nippin' next door ...
4. Think I'll join you, Dave.
5. Yes, you got a point there, Dave.
6. No, think I'll stay here ...

5 Phrasal verbs

Match the verbs with their meanings.

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| 1. sort out | a. start |
| 2. cut down | b. force someone to leave |
| 3. kick off | c. do physical exercise to keep fit |
| 4. work out | d. reduce the amount of something |
| 5. chuck out | e. dilute a liquid to make it weaker |
| 6. water down | f. deal with a difficult person successfully |

6 What's the topic?

Which of these topics do you think is the main topic of the play?

- a. keeping fit
- b. losing weight
- c. drinking too much
- d. diet
- e. violence
- f. relationships

7 Discussion

What action should the authorities take to stop young people drinking too much alcohol?

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The pub

Transcript

Scenario: Two friends play darts in a pub in Swansea

Characters: Dave, Mike, Sandra (Dave's wife)

- Dave** One hundred and eighty!
- Mike** I don't know how you do it!
- Dave** Been looking after myself, I have.
- Mike** Tidy darts!
- Dave** Yes, I've been working out and cutting down on the old booze, see.
- Mike** I don't see how it can have any effect on how you play darts!
- Dave** You'd be surprised. Look at that.
- Mike** What?
- Dave** My hand, you plonker! Now, do you see it shaking?
- Mike** Well, no. But it didn't before, did it?
- Dave** Oh yes! Oh yes, boy. You see? Steady as a rock ... Mike?
- Mike** Yes, Dave.
- Dave** Do you see any sweat on my brow?
- Mike** Um, well, now you come to mention it ...
- Dave** No, you don't, do you? See! I can't tell you how much it's improved my game, Mike.
- Mike** What made you decide to get into shape, Dave?
- Dave** I s'pose it was Sandra, really.
- Mike** Oh, right.
- Dave** Yes, she said my love handles were more like door handles – know what I mean?
- Mike** Well, I'm impressed, Dave. I'll get 'em in, shall I? It's my shout.
- Dave** Go on then, Mike. Sandra's not looking, is she?
- Mike** No, she was feelin' a bit peckish, Dave. Said to tell you she was just nippin' next door for some chips.
- Dave** Oh! Tell you what; I'll have a chaser as well, then. While the cat's away, eh?
- Mike** Think I'll join you, Dave. I mean, if you can't enjoy yourself on a Friday night, when can you?
- Dave** Saturday night, I s'pose, Mike.
- Mike** Yes, you got a point there, Dave. You clubbing tonight?
- Dave** No, think I'll stay here, if it's all the same to you. I mean, it's not like they chuck you out at 11 now, is it?

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Transcript

- Mike** You're not wrong, Dave. And I tell you what; all that dance music gives me a splittin' headache in the morning.
- Dave** You sure it's the music, Mike? To be honest, I get fed up with having to sort out the heavies. Doesn't matter what club I go to. Every time there's trouble, who do they call, Mike, who do they call?
- Mike** The police?
- Dave** No, mate, me! That's who they call. It's a burden, that's what it is.
- Sandra** Dave!
- Dave** I was just holdin' it for 'im, love, that's all! It's Mike's, honest it is!
- Sandra** Whatever you say, Dave. It's all kickin' off in the chippy!
- Dave** Oh!
- Sandra** It's Jane. She's off her face! Shouting her mouth off in there, she is. Somethin' about her order.
- Dave** Oh, that'll be the vinegar, that will. They water it down in there! Makes your chips go all soggy!
- Sandra** How do you know? You're supposed to be on a diet!
- Dave** And I am, love, really! Look at me – there'll be nothing left of me soon!
- Sandra** Oh come on! Someone needs to come and sort her out before the 'Old Bill' get here, or she'll get herself arrested again.
- Mike** She can get very violent, can Jane.
- Dave** Ok, ok, hold your horses! You go, Mike, I've got to visit the little boy's room first!