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Functional Language Practice: Speculating and deducing

1 Complete the description of the photo.



This photo ${}^{1}s$ _____s to show a teacher and a student at a school or college. They're standing by some lockers. The boy's holding something – I can't be ${}^{2}c$ _____n, but it ${}^{3}c$ _____d be a book, or maybe a folder. Judging by their ${}^{4}e$ _____s, I'd say that the teacher is probably telling the student off. She's frowning, so she ${}^{5}m$ ____ be quite annoyed. He ${}^{6}m$ ____ t be apologising, or he could be making an excuse. In the background, two other boys ${}^{7}a$ ____ r to be smiling. They're looking at the teacher and the student with the book, so I might be ${}^{8}w$ ____ g, but I think they're laughing at him.

2 SPEAKING Work in pairs.

Student A Look at the photo below. Think of words for each category below to describe it. Then talk to Student B about your photo.



Appearance	Location	Emotions	Actions

Student B Look at the photo below. Think of words for each category below to describe it. Then talk to Student A about your photo.



Appearance	Location	Emotions	Actions

Solutions Third Edition Upper-Intermediate

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Functional Language Practice: Speculating and deducing

Aims: To review and practice language for speculating and deducing. This draws on the language in lesson 5G.

Time: 15–20 minutes

Materials: 1 handout for each student, cut as indicated. Retain A & B parts for exercise 3.

Exercise 1

- Draw students' attention to the photo. Then brainstorm some words and phrases to describe it. Write them on the board. Ask students to read through the text and see if any of their ideas are included before completing the gapped words.
- Check answers with the class.

KEY

1	seems	2 certain	3	could	4	expressions
5	must	6 might	7	appear	8	wrong

Exercise 2

• Distribute A/B sections to each pair. Give students a couple of minutes to look at their photos individually and think of useful vocabulary. You could ask all the Student As to work together, brainstorming vocabulary for their photo, and all the Student Bs to work together, brainstorming vocabulary for their photo. Then put students into A/B pairs and ask them to describe their photos to each other.