

THE REAL SAMURAI



ArtSpotTheatre

GENERAL ORGANIZATION OF THE BOOKLET

The booklet is organized in three main levels: **Level 1** for beginners of the English Language, **Level 2** for an intermediate class and **Level 3** for advanced students. There is a special Level prepared for **Native Speakers** of the language for those countries in which English is spoken as a mother tongue.

Besides, each level has been divided into **three sessions** in which learners will have an approach to the story, plot, characters and they will have the possibility to solve creative activities before the play.

The amount of **time** to complete each session is between **30 and 50 minutes**.

IN ARTSPOT WE STRONGLY BELIEVE THAT THE USE OF THE BOOKLET IN CLASS WILL ENHANCE STUDENTS' EXPERIENCE BY HELPING THEM TO COMPREHEND THE STORY DEEPLY, BROADENING THEIR LANGUAGE SKILLS AND PROVIDING THE CONDITIONS TO EXPLORE ENGLISH WITHIN AN INGENIOUS AND INNOVATIVE CONTEXT.

Sessions

1. Getting Started!

Aim: Getting to know the story, vocabulary, reading comprehension.

2. Meet the Characters

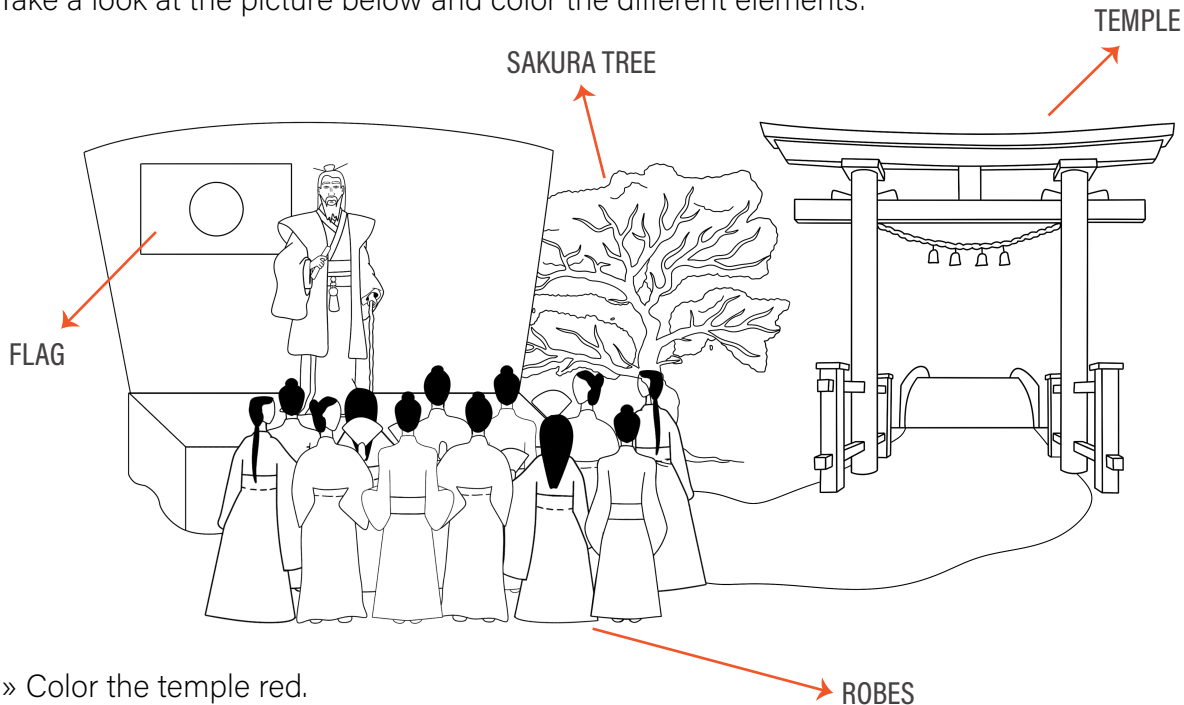
Aim: Meeting the characters of the play and going over English grammar concepts.

3. Creative Writing

Aim: Thinking beyond the story, creative writing.

PICTURE THE BEGINNING

The story takes place in the garden of a picturesque Japanese temple.
Take a look at the picture below and color the different elements:



- » Color the temple red.
- » Color people's robes yellow.
- » Color the Sakura tree pink.
- » The sky is clear and the sun is shining.
- » Color the Japanese flag: the circle red, the background white.

Now, complete the sentences that describe the image using the words in the box.

leader - Sakura - reunion - Japan

The story takes place in

People are together in a

There is an important tree in the garden: the tree.

A new is coming.

Tip

Sakura is the Japanese word for cherry blossoms. Sakura is a famous tree with pink flowers. You can find it in Japan, China, Korea, Nepal, India, Pakistan, Iran, Afghanistan, and other areas of northern Europe.



THE PLOT

In the garden of a picturesque Japanese temple, the great Samurai is about to choose a new leader. His son, Reiko, is getting ready to occupy this important position. The youngest daughter, Akira, however, argues her older sister, Shoko, should be the rightful successor. The father listens to his daughter's request and agrees to call Master Fuyu for him to guide Reiko and Shoko in finding the most suitable person for the position.

Before his departure, the father gives each of his children a precious item. Shoko receives a sacred flower that symbolizes purity and beauty. Reiko receives a precious stone that represents strength and resilience. Akira receives a gong, signifying the need for harmony and balance.

As their father leaves on a mission, the siblings embark on a journey of self-discovery and face the challenges presented to them by their master.

The journey begins under the guidance of Master Fuyu. The siblings embrace the physical, mental, and spiritual challenges they encounter: intensive training, martial arts, intellectual exercises, and exploring their inner selves to find their purpose.

During these tests, Akira finds solace in her deep connection with the wise Sakura tree. Every day, Akira shares her dreams and experiences with the tree, seeking its wisdom and guidance. Only Akira can interpret the messages transmitted by the tree.

Will Reiko and Shoko's transformative journey allow them to find the true Samurai master?

The answer lies in the culmination of their efforts, their growth, and their commitment to the path of the Samurai.

LET'S PUT THINGS IN ORDER

The story is mixed up! Cut out the pictures and parts of the story and put them in the correct order. Then, stick them on the following page.

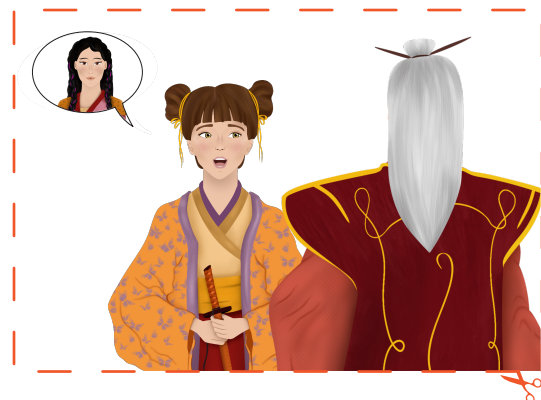
Akira's father announces he must leave. Before leaving, he gives each of his kids an object: a **sacred flower** to Shoko, a **precious stone** to Reiko, and a **gong** to Akira.



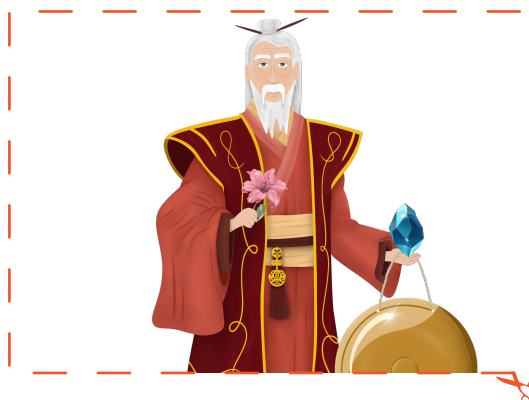
Akira complains to her father. She believes Shoko should be the next Samurai.



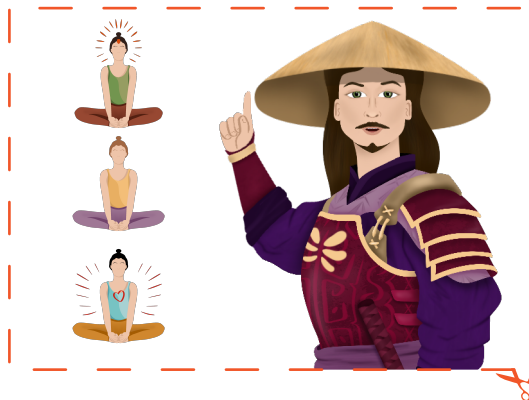
People are waiting for the Samurai's speech. It is an important day: The real Samurai will be announced.



The father calls Master Fuyu, a wise man who will instruct the siblings while he is out.

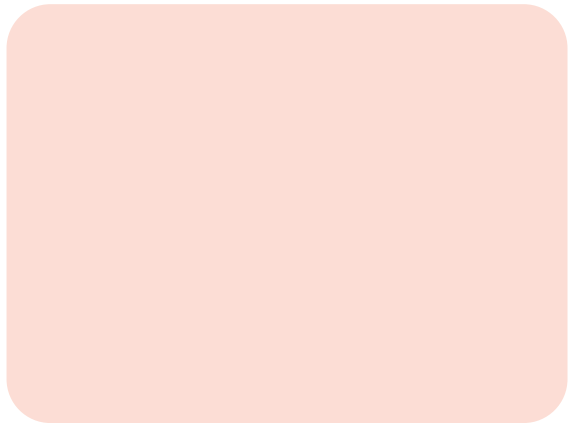
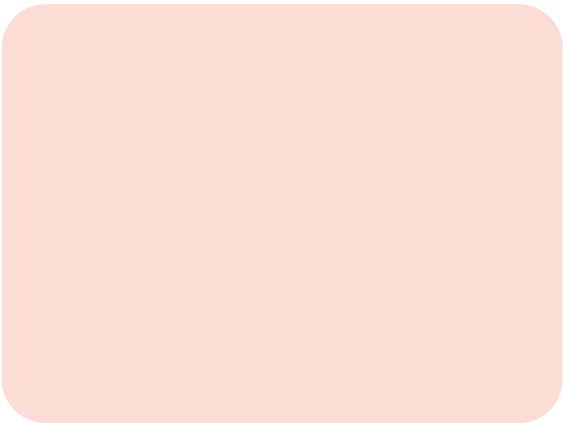
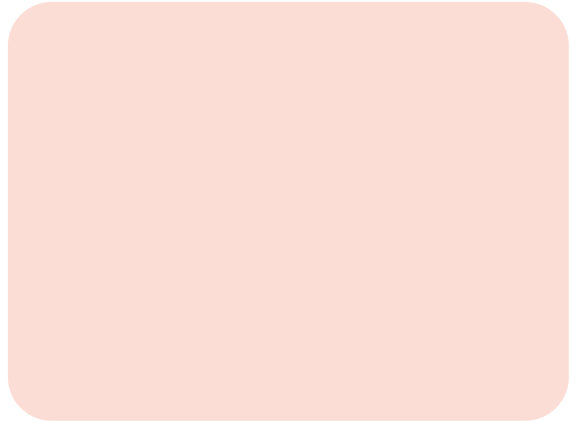
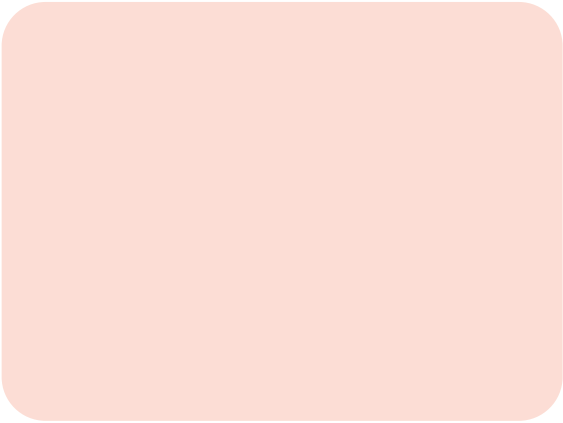
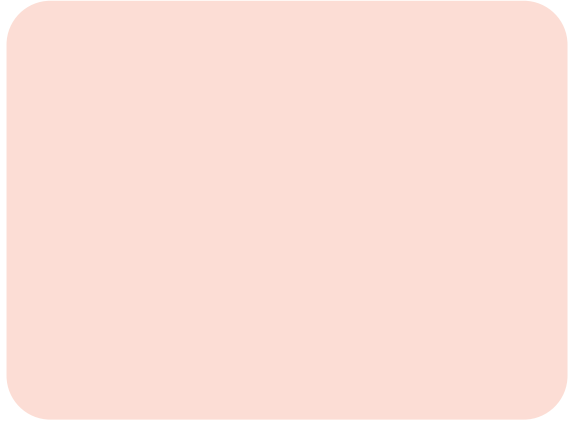
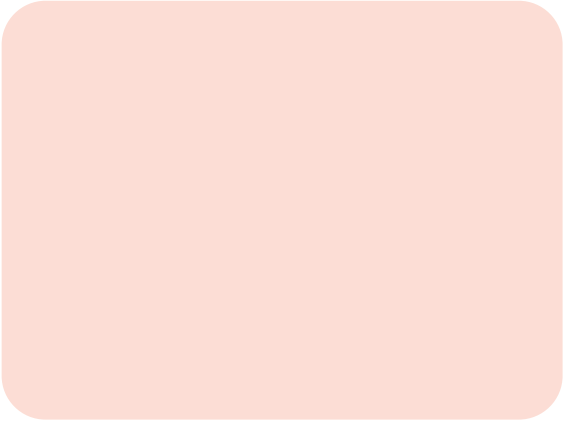


Akira talks to her dearest friend: the Sakura tree. She retells all her fantastic stories every day.



Fuyu instructs Reiko and Shoko by presenting them with mental, physical, and spiritual challenges.

Plot events in order:



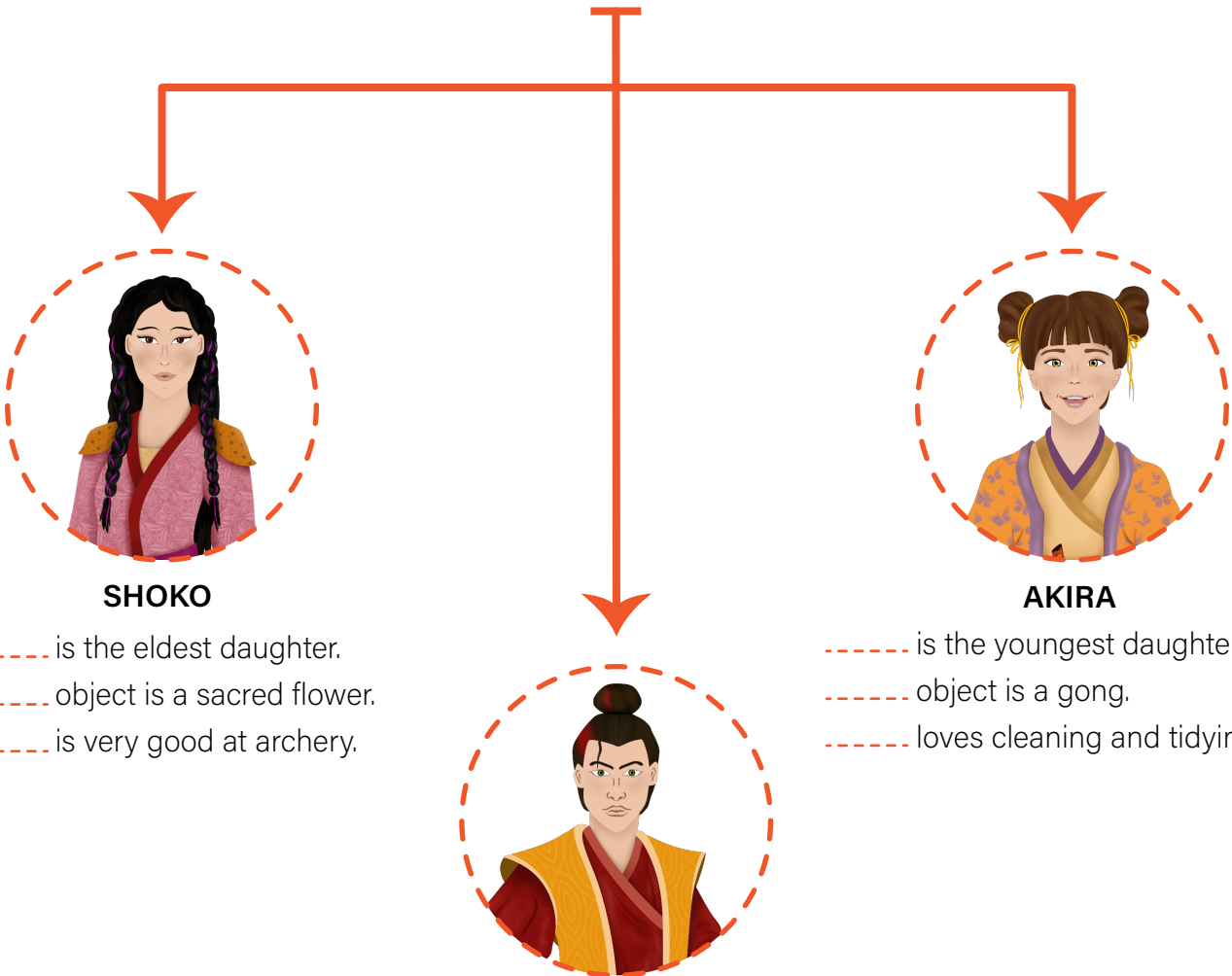
A FAMILY TREE

Look at the Samurai's family tree. Complete with **HE / SHE / HIS / HER**



The Father

- is the Samurai.
- favorite object is a katana.
- loves gardening.



SHOKO

- is the eldest daughter.
- object is a sacred flower.
- is very good at archery.

AKIRA

- is the youngest daughter.
- object is a gong.
- loves cleaning and tidying up.

REIKO

- is the son.
- object is a precious stone.
- is very good at puzzles.

FUYU: THE TEACHER

The father needs to leave town, but Fuyu stays to train the kids.

Look at the pictures and discover each character's abilities by using **CAN** or **CAN'T**.

AKIRA

Akira skip the rope.

She solve sudoku puzzles.

She keep her balance.



REIKO

Reiko climb trees.

He ride horses.

He solve puzzles.



SHOKO

Shoko practice archery.

She play chess.

She practice yoga.



NOW IT'S YOUR TURN!

Look at the actions from the previous activity. Write 2 sentences with the activities you can and can't do.

I can but I can't

..... I can

..... but I can't

#Grammarspot

Modal verbs **can** and **can't**

We can use can and can't to talk about abilities in the present.

I **can** swim.

They **can** speak English.

He **can't** ride a bike.

You **can** run fast.

She **can** ride a bike.

We **can't** speak Japanese.

They **can't** play the guitar.

THE PERFECT SAMURAI

What attributes should the real Samurai have? What do you think a real Samurai looks like? Draw a picture and complete the speech bubbles using the expressions in the box.

I must

fight for people -
stay fit - watch TV -
organize the town

I like

playing football -
practicing archery -
doing gardening -
dancing tango

I am

tolerant - funny -
disorganized - rude

I can -----

but I can't -----

I can -----

but I can't -----

ride my horse - solve puzzles
- practice yoga -
do skateboarding

Tip

For hundreds of years warriors called "samurai" controlled Japan. The Samurai followed a set of rules called **Bushido**. The word Bushido means "*way of the warrior*".

A Samurai built up his body and learned all the skills of a soldier. He was brave and honest. He honored his parents. But above all, he obeyed his leader.