

# 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.



## THE REAL SAMURAI IN COLORS

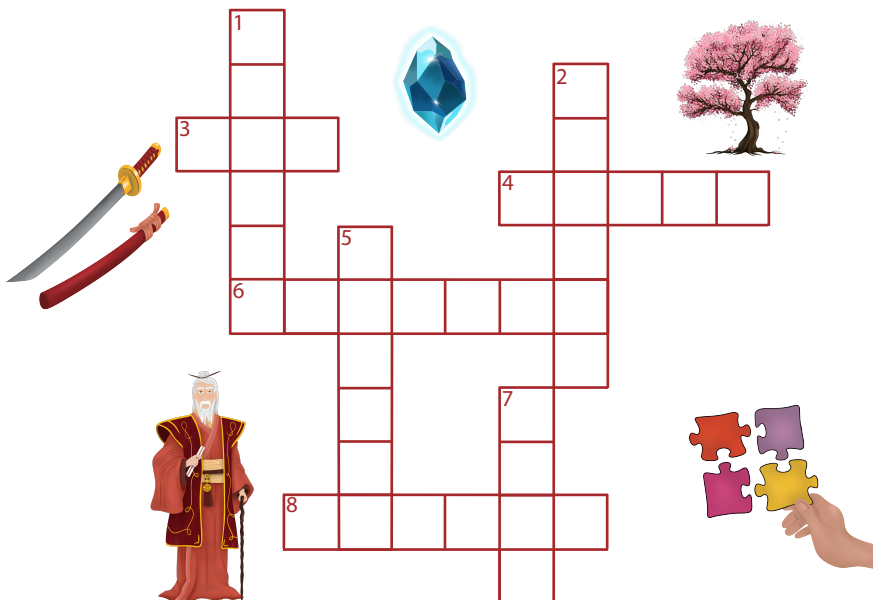
Look at the chart and follow the colors to create sentences. Put the words in order to find out the 5 messages of the story.

|          |       |            |             |
|----------|-------|------------|-------------|
| samurais | Akira | teacher    | Fuyu        |
| is       | The   | Reiko      | warriors    |
| Japan    | and   | are        | are         |
| Shoko    | main  | characters | takes place |
| story    | the   | the        | in          |

- .....
- .....
- .....
- .....

## A SAMURAI CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Look at the pictures and complete the crossword puzzle with words from the story.



### ACROSS

- bow
- stone
- reunion
- leader

### DOWN

- flower
- katana
- puzzle
- tree

## THE PLOT

In the garden of a picturesque Japanese temple, the fate of the country hangs in the balance. The great Samurai is about to choose a new leader. Tension builds up as Reiko, the son of the family, gets ready to occupy this important position. Akira, the youngest daughter, however, argues her older sister, Shoko, should be the rightful successor. In order to make a fair decision, their father agrees to bring in Master Fuyu, an experienced instructor who will guide Reiko and Shoko in finding the most suitable person for the position.

Before leaving, the father gives a precious item to each of his children. Shoko receives a sacred flower, symbolizing purity and beauty. Reiko receives a precious stone, representing strength and resilience. Akira receives a gong, signifying the need for harmony and balance. Each item carries a unique meaning and sets the stage for the challenges that lie ahead.

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

The journey begins under the guidance of Master Fuyu. The siblings embrace all the physical, mental, and spiritual challenges they encounter. They push their bodies to the limit, honing their physical abilities through hard work and martial arts. They engage in intellectual exercises, sharpening their minds and learning the intricate strategies of a true Samurai. In addition to this, they delve into the depths of their souls, connecting with their inner selves to find their purpose.

During these difficult 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. Through this bond, the Sakura imparts messages that only Akira can interpret, broadening her understanding of the path she must follow.

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






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

## A MIXED-UP STORY

Look at the pictures and complete the paragraphs with the words from the box.

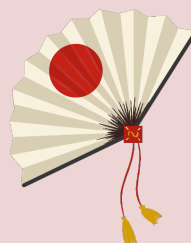
FATHER - SPEECH - TREE - LEADER - FLOWER - MIND - OLDER - GONG - WISHES

Then, put the story in the correct order.

|  |  |
|--|--|
|    | <p>Akira's father announces he must leave. Before leaving, he gives each of his kids a precious object: a <b>sacred</b> _____ to Shoko, a <b>precious stone</b> to Reiko and a _____ to Akira.</p> |
|   | <p>Akira talks to her dearest friend: the Sakura _____. She retells all the fantastic stories of her day and makes the most wonderful _____.</p>   |
|  | <p>Fuyu teaches Reiko and Shoko to build a strong body, _____ and soul to become the next _____ of the town.</p>   |
|  | <p>People are waiting for the Samurai's _____. It is an important day: The real Samurai will be announced.</p>   |
|  | <p>Akira complains to her _____. She believes Reiko shouldn't become the next Samurai; rather her _____ sister Shoko should become the next Samurai.</p>   |

### Research Spot!

Japanese history has many symbols that are very important for their culture. Look up the names of the following drawings and their meanings.





## A SAMURAI'S PROFILE

Read the information about the characters of the play. Then, write a paragraph including all the details provided below.



**Role:** Samurai, leader of the village

**Hobbies:** (practice) archery - (do) meditation -  
(solve) sudokus

**Personal object:** a katana

The father is .....

His hobbies are .....

His favorite object is .....



**Role:** The Samurai's son

**Hobbies:** (do) martial arts - (practice) balance on logs -  
(complete) crossword puzzles

**Personal object:** a precious stone

Reiko is .....

His hobbies are .....

His favorite object is .....



**Role:** Samurai's eldest daughter

**Hobbies:** (practice) horse-riding - (practice) yoga -  
(solve) mazes

**Personal object:** a sacred flower

Shoko is .....

Her hobbies are .....

Her favorite object is .....



**Role:** Samurai's youngest daughter

**Hobbies:** (climb) trees - (imagine) stories - (do) gardening

**Personal object:** a gong

Akira is .....




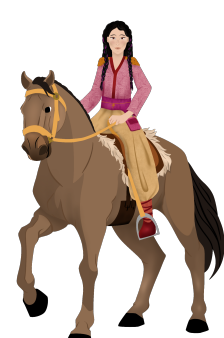

Her hobbies are .....

.....

Her favorite object is .....

## FUYU: THE MASTER'S PLAN

Fuyu is the official instructor of the Samurai's family. He has a weekly plan for the kids. Look at the agenda and write down the routine for each day. Use the words and verbs from the previous exercise to help you write complete sentences.

| Monday<br>7 am  | Tuesday<br>1 pm   | Wednesday<br>9 am   | Thursday<br>12 pm  | Friday<br>6 pm  |
|---|---|---|--|---|
|  |  |  |  |  |

On Monday Reiko .....

On Tuesday Shoko .....

On Wednesday both .....

On Thursday Shoko .....

On Friday Reiko .....

## A MUST-HAVE-LIST FOR A GOOD LEADER

As a leader, a real samurai should have some basic and essential skills.

Use the word bank to choose the three most relevant skills a Real Samurai should have.

### Mind

be smart - speak different languages -  
solve sudoku puzzles - care for others -  
play chess - build puzzles

He should know how to .....

.....

### Soul

be generous - complain about problems -  
play tricks on others - exercise patience -  
yell - fight for the good

A real samurai must .....

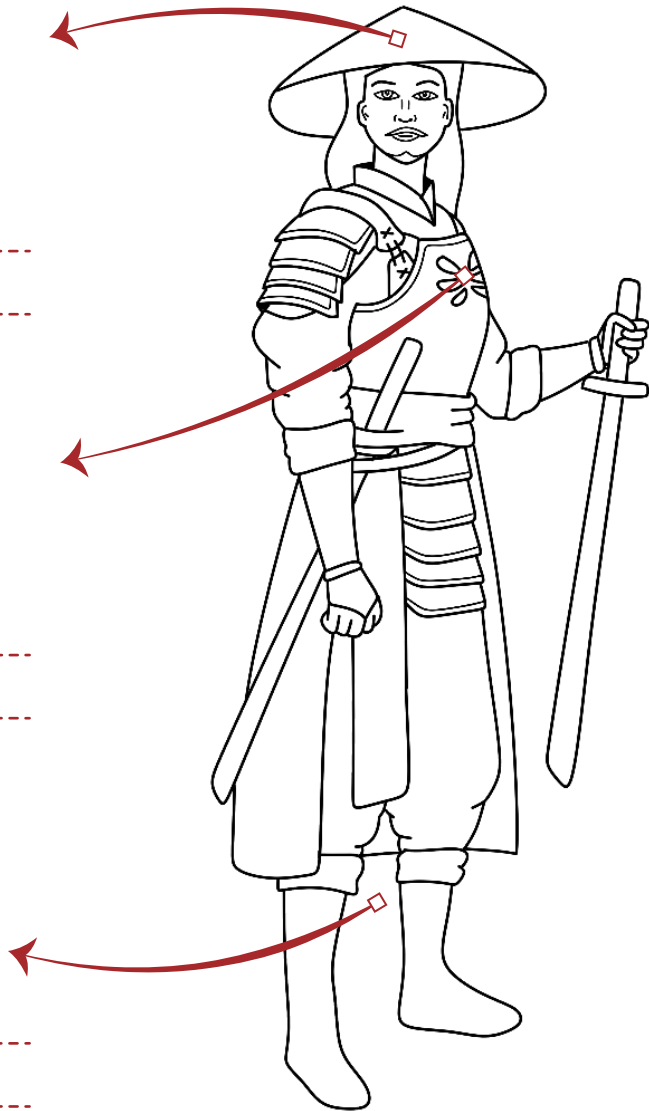
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### Body

keeping their balance - skipping the rope -  
playing football - riding horses -  
sewing clothes - using a katana

A Samurai should be good at .....

.....



### Tip

- » Look at the symbols of the seven virtues of a good Samurai.
- » Choose the most relevant for you and paint it on his clothes.
- » You can use a dictionary to look up the meaning of any words that you don't understand.

### THE SEVEN VIRTUES OF BUSHIDO

義

**GI**  
Integrity

礼

**REI**  
Politeness

勇

**YU**  
Heroic  
Courage

名譽

**MEIYO**  
Honor

仁

**JIN**  
Compassion

真

**MAKOTO**  
Honesty  
and sincerity

忠義

**CHU**  
Duty  
and loyalty