

## Six Sketches

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### Summary

#### Pages 1–7

**I'm Right!** Norma and Colin are on their way by train to a wedding in Winchester. When the ticket inspector comes, they argue over who has got the tickets and who is right or wrong.

**A Good Story:** Mrs Price's son, Michael, can tell good stories, and he demonstrates this in front of Mrs Roberts.

**Cheese!** A photographer buys cheese at Mr Smith's shop every day. He tells Mr Smith the reason why, and he also suggests that Mr Smith should smile at the people in his shop.

#### Pages 8–14

**A Good Match:** The Green family is watching a football match – Rovers vs. United – on TV. They are Rovers supporters. Susan brings her boyfriend who is a United supporter.

**Wedding Day:** A year later, David and Susan are getting married. Today is the wedding day, and David says he isn't nervous.

**The English Teacher:** Mr Brown asks each of his students to say a new sentence. When a student tells him that the school is on fire, he thinks it's a new sentence.

### Background and themes

**Sketches:** A sketch is a short humorous scene on stage or television. When a TV programme is made up of a series of sketches it is sometimes called 'sketch comedy' and is very popular. A series of sketches can be a part of a longer show.

**Humour:** Each sketch includes a punch line towards the end. There are different types of humour: for example, something absurd, making fun of stereotypes, and the 'war' between children/students and grown-ups/teachers.

### Discussion activities

#### Pages 1–7

##### Before reading

- Discuss:** Talk about the book cover. Have students look at the book cover. Ask them to tell you what they can see in the picture.
- Guess:** Talk about the pictures. Have students look at the pictures in each sketch. Ask them to guess what the sketches are about.

##### After reading

- Write:** Have students work in pairs to think of the conversation after the punch lines. Ask them to write a conversation between Norma and Colin for *I'm Right!* and another one between Mrs Roberts and Mrs Price for *A Good Story*.
- Role play:** After *Cheese!*, bring in some props for a shop scene, e.g. toy food, toy money, apron, etc. Introduce the structures *Have you got ...?* and *How much is ...?* Demonstrate the dialogues with a student in front of the class first. Put students in pairs. Ask them to come up with a conversation between a shopkeeper and a customer. Then have the pairs act out the scenes for the rest of the class.

#### Pages 8–14

##### Before reading

- Discuss:** Talk about the beginning of the sketches. Have students look at the title, the list of the names, and what the narrator says at the beginning of each sketch. Ask them to guess who is talking at the end of each sketch and what they are talking about. Students can check their answers later.
- Write:** Before *A Good Match*, have students work in pairs or small groups. Ask them to write the different meanings of *match*. They could use their dictionaries. Ask them to write some example sentences using the word *match* with different meanings.

##### Extra activities

- Role play:** Put students into groups. Assign a sketch to each group to act out. Students could choose the part of the sketch they want to practise and act out. Have them think about the emotions and voice qualities of the characters. Later, ask each group to perform in front of the class.
- Discuss:** Have students work in small groups to discuss what the funny part in each sketch is.