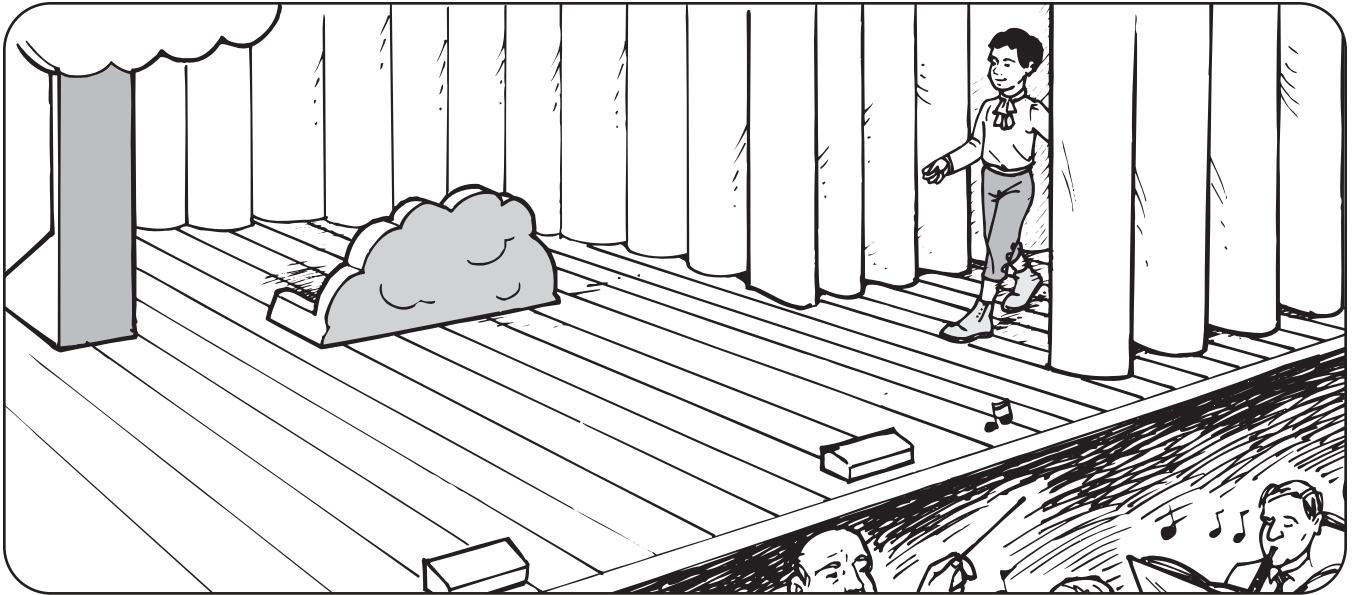


# Story 4



First came the tryouts. We took turns reading the parts we wanted for the play. Mr. Russell gave us tips about reading with good expression. All of us had two chances to read our parts. The next day, Mr. Russell posted a list of who got which parts.

We had two weeks to memorize our lines. Then rehearsals began. We rehearsed every day for three weeks. The director told us where to stand to say our lines and how to move across the stage. At first we could hold our scripts on the stage. Later we had to know our lines without looking at them.

We wore our costumes for the dress rehearsal. It went really well!

On opening night, we were excited. People filled the seats in the audience. What would happen if I forgot my lines? What if I tripped? I was a jellyfish of nerves!

The music started. Then the curtain went up. Gulp! It was time to walk on stage. I took a deep breath. Then I walked to center stage and said my first line.

## Main Idea and Details

1. What is the main idea of this story?
  - a. tryouts for a school play
  - b. what happened before the play began
  - c. who got which parts in the play
  
2. How long did they rehearse the play every day?
  - a. for one week
  - b. for five weeks
  - c. for three weeks
  
3. True or false? The actors did not have to wear costumes for this play.

## Vocabulary and Semantics

4. What are **tryouts**?
  - a. People read parts of the play. The director decides who will perform each part.
  - b. People try to stay healthy and get plenty of exercise so they can play longer.
  - c. The actors do their play for an audience. The audience claps if they like the play.
  
5. In the story, **Mr. Russell posted a list**. What does that mean?
  - a. Mr. Russell put a stamp on a list and put it in a mailbox.
  - b. Mr. Russell sold copies of a list to all students.
  - c. Mr. Russell put up a list where everyone could read it.
  
6. What is **opening night**?
  - a. the night the school keeps all the doors open
  - b. the first night an audience sees a play
  - c. the night everyone in the play opens a present

## Paraphrasing and Summarizing

7. Which is the best title for this story?
  - a. Our School Play
  - b. Wearing Costumes
  - c. My First Line
  
8. **I was a jellyfish of nerves!** What is another way to say that sentence?
  - a. I was as hungry as a jellyfish!
  - b. I was really nervous!
  - c. I couldn't remember how to swim!
  
9. Explain how the tryouts worked.
  
10. Tell this story in your own words.

## Asking Questions

Ask me a question about trying out for a part in a school play.

### Writing Prompt .....

Write about a time you had to say or do something in front of an audience. Tell what you were doing and tell how you felt about being in front of an audience.