

# 2

# Confessions

## Teacher's notes

### Summary

This DVD programme can be used as support for materials in Unit 3 of the Student's Book. These are monologues of genuine unscripted memories of naughty childhood behaviour.

#### Language focus

**Grammar:** past simple and continuous with time adverbials for past narrative

**Note:** One speaker uses *used to* but it is not necessary to focus on this in the lesson unless your class is already very confident in the past simple, and you feel they would be able to use it in their own storytelling.

**Vocabulary:** *scientific, nail varnish, twins, scissors, throw, pavement, tell off, handwriting, snowballs, chase, fence.*

#### Background information

Matt is from the USA and uses American English lexical items. These are pre-taught in Exercise 1.

#### Procedure

##### Before you watch

- 1 The following words appear in the confessions the students are going to hear. Ask them to match the words and the definitions. If dictionaries are available, the students may find them useful.

a) 7   b) 9   c) 4   d) 2   e) 3   f) 8  
g) 5   h) 10   i) 6   j) 1

##### While you watch

- 2 Ask the students to look at the pictures and describe them. Elicit *scissors, snowball, nail varnish, stick* and *plum*. Ask the students to predict what the naughty children did.

Tell the students they're going to watch some people telling stories about their childhood. Play the whole programme and tell the students to match the people and the illustrations by writing the relevant letter in each box.

1 d   2 b   3 e   4 a   5 c

- 3 Put the students into pairs. Tell them to work together and answer the questions.
- 4 Ask the students to read through the questions. Then play the programme and tell them to answer the questions and check their answers to Exercise 3.

3  
a) Joanne and Nicola  
b) Joseph  
c) Nicola  
d) Darina's  
e) Nicola  
f) Matthew

4  
a) 1   b) 2   c) 3   d) 1   e) 3   f) 2  
g) 1   h) 2

If there is time, let the students watch the complete programme at the end so they can enjoy the whole film.

##### After you watch

- 5 Put the students into groups. Ask them to discuss the five confessions and decide which one they think is the most serious, i.e. the naughtiest.
- 6 Go through the phrases with the students. Then ask the students to tell their partner their own childhood stories. They can tell positive or exciting stories instead of anecdotes about when they were naughty if they prefer.

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*DVD script (03:33)*

(D = Darina; Jo = Joanne; J = Joseph; N = Nicola;  
M = Matthew)

D: Um, this is a story from when I was about five years old. Um, I had a friend who lived next door, and one day we were playing in my room and we decided to make a scientific concoction, a scientific, um, experiment. So we took all of my mother's shampoos and nail varnishes and perfumes, and we poured them all into the bath. She came in about half an hour later and went absolutely crazy. She sent my friend home and I wasn't allowed to go out for a whole week afterwards.

Jo: When I was younger, my sister and I had dolls. We're twins and we both loved our dolls. One day, when Kim went to school, she left her doll, and I decided to cut the hair off her doll with a pair of scissors. When she came back from school she was very angry and she didn't speak to me for months.

J: Well, when I was young, er, I used to live in a road, with er, several other children who lived around. And there was a friend across the road called David, who had a big plum tree in his garden. Lots of big, fat, juicy plums used to come every year. And, er, we quickly found out that if you put one of these plums on a stick, you could throw the plum quite a long way, and quite hard. Um, anyway, also in the road where I lived there was an old man who was always complaining about us cycling on the pavement and just generally making a noise, like children do. Er, I don't think he liked children very much. Anyway, one day we went over to his house when he was out, and we got lots and lots of plums with our sticks and threw them at his windows, and all his windows were covered in plums and plum juice and it was a big mess. Um, and this was revenge for us, er, for him telling us off, er, all the time. Anyway, it was a silly idea because, um, we lived about a hundred yards away from this man, and he came out of his house one day when my father was there and he told him, and, er, my father took me inside and told me off.

N: It was when we were living in this house in London and my parents had painted the wall in my sister and my bedroom, and my sister had just learnt to write. And I wrote her name on the wall in her handwriting so that my parents thought that she'd done it. And she got into trouble with my parents. My mother was very angry. And I never told anybody that I did it.

M: I remember one winter there was a lot of snow and my friends and I decided to make some snowballs. But this time we made them extra special because we put rocks in the snowballs. And then we decided that we would throw the snowballs at the passing cars at the road nearby. And, um, we threw snowballs at one car in particular and it broke the window of the car. The guy pulled over, got out of his car, and he started chasing us. And we ran, had to hop fences and go through neighbours' backyards and finally we got away.