

# LESSON 8: NEW BEGINNINGS

Age range: 7-11 years    Time: 1 hour

<b>Outline</b>  Pupils will look at direct and reported speech, and based on this will create their own newspaper report which highlights how Haitian people have worked hard to rebuild their lives. They will find out about another earthquake survivor, Marie Carole Boursiquot, as she rebuilt her life and work.		
<b>Learning objectives</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To consider the differences between direct and reported speech.</li> <li>To encourage pupils to build an empathy with someone affected by a disaster.</li> <li>To use direct speech in a newspaper article to support a key message.</li> <li>To identify the audience and purpose of their writing.</li> </ul>	<b>Learning outcomes</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pupils will put themselves in the shoes of an earthquake survivor.</li> <li>Pupils will create a newspaper report based on an interview with an earthquake survivor.</li> <li>Pupils will reinforce a key message by selecting appropriate direct speech.</li> </ul>	
<b>Key questions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What is it like to survive an earthquake?</li> <li>What is the difference between direct and reported speech?</li> <li>What is my key message?</li> <li>What effect does the use of direct speech have on readers?</li> </ul>	<b>Resources</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Slideshow 2 – Stories from Haiti: from 2011.</li> <li>Interview sheet 1.</li> <li>Scissors.</li> <li>Interview sheet.</li> </ul>	
<b>Curriculum links</b>		
<b>England</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pupils will retrieve, record and present information from a non-fiction text.</li> <li>Pupils choose their grammar and vocabulary carefully to enhance the meaning of what they write.</li> <li>Pupils write for different purposes, with their readers in mind.</li> </ul>	<b>Wales</b> <b>Reading</b> Skills: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Retrieve and collate information and ideas from a range of sources.</li> </ul> <b>Writing</b> Skills: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Choose and use appropriate vocabulary.</li> </ul> Range: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pupils should be given opportunities to develop their writing skills through:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Writing for a range of purposes.</li> <li>Writing for a range of real or imagined audiences.</li> </ol> </li> </ul>	<b>Scotland</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Having explored the elements which writers use in different genres, I can use what I learn to create stories, poems and plays with an interesting and appropriate structure, interesting characters and/or settings which come to life.</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>ENG 2-31a</b></p>

## Activity outline

### Starter (10 mins)

#### *Introducing Marie Carole*

- Explain to pupils that after writing headlines in lessons 6 and 7 about what happened in Haiti in first year after the earthquake, they will now be exploring more stories from survivors recovering during this time and then writing their own news article.
- Introduce Marie Carole Boursiquot to the class using slide 13 from slideshow 2 and the Background notes for teachers. Explain that before the earthquake Marie Carole owned a grocery store in Carrefour Feuilles (*Car-for foy-e*), an area in Haiti's capital city Port au Prince that was badly affected by the earthquake. Marie Carole lost her home and her business.
- Ask pupils to think about what impressions of Marie Carole these photos give – do they show a 'victim' or a 'survivor'? Encourage pupils to imagine how they would feel if they were Marie Carole and had lost everything in the earthquake. Explain that Marie Carole survived the earthquake and, with Oxfam's support, used her skills to set up a canteen. How did Marie Carole's feelings change after running the canteen? (*Note: it is likely that pupils will have further questions about Marie Carole Boursiquot: see Background notes for teachers for further information.*)

### Activity 8.1 (15 mins)

#### *Direct and reported speech*

- Give each pair of pupils a copy of Interview sheet 1. Explain to pupils that each pair has a set of eight boxes to be cut out. Four of these are the actual words of Marie Carole Boursiquot, and four of them are taken from a report written about her in April 2010. Ask pupils to cut out, sort and sequence their set of cards so they have completed sets of direct and reported speech. They can use the three-step instructions to help them.
- As a class, take feedback on the differences in effect between interviews which contain direct speech and reports which contain some reported speech but are more descriptive.

### Activity 8.2 (25 mins)

#### *Writing a newspaper article*

- Give each pupil a copy of Interview sheet 2 which is a continuation of the interview with Marie Carole Boursiquot. Ask them to imagine that they are journalists who are preparing a newspaper report on what earthquake survivors in Haiti are doing to rebuild their lives. Their job is to present a report that will catch the attention of readers. They should think about what sort of messages they would like to convey to their readers.
- Ask pupils to use the information from Interview sheets 1 and 2 to write a newspaper article on Marie Carole Boursiquot's story. This should include a headline, an opening paragraph, some direct speech and a conclusion.
- Encourage pupils to consider a key message or messages they would like to include, for example Marie Carole's resourcefulness and resilience in the face of great challenges,



how she was able to apply her existing skills to a new situation, or how she helped those around her. Also ask pupils to include some carefully-selected direct speech to reinforce their chosen message(s).

**Plenary (10 mins)**

- Select pupils to read their reports aloud to the class and discuss some of the issues that have been raised. What key messages were pupils seeking to convey through their reports? Were these clearly expressed? Was the choice and use of direct speech effective in supporting each message?
- Show slide 14 and explaining that Marie Carole used the profits from her canteen work and an Oxfam business loan to set up a new grocery shop. This will help her earn a living in years to come.

**Further ideas**

- You might like to refer back to lesson 5, where pupils identified key messages and then compared the differences in language being used by *Daily Mail* and *Le Nouvelliste* reporters. You could encourage pupils to imagine which paper they are going to write their report for and amend their language accordingly. Remind pupils that one paper is writing for an international audience which may know less about Haiti, while the other is writing for a national audience based in Haiti.



## **Background notes for teachers**

### **Marie Carole Boursiquot's full story**

Marie Carole Boursiquot used to run a shop before the earthquake but this was destroyed. In the first few months after the earthquake she became one of 57 canteen owners which provided hot meals for 80 people each day.

Outside the ruins of her house and shop, Marie said: "This is my home." She pointed at the crumbled remains and twisted iron rods and points out other 'rooms'. "This is where my business was. I had everything here. It was a grocery store where I sold in bulk, things like rice, salt, condiments, many things."

Marie was at a meeting when the earthquake struck. When she returned home, "I found the house was falling down... the top part of my house was leaning over the bottom part and had to be demolished."

She lost both her home and her business. Looking back she adds, "What was left was nothing - there was nothing I could do with it. I was left to my own devices – there was nothing I could do."

Oxfam set up deals with the community and local restaurant owners like Marie and gave them funds to provide a daily hot meal to those people the community who were most in need. Not only did this provide hot food for diners, it also helped cooks and restaurant owners get back into business. Marie said: "I really like it. Through the canteen I'm able to help people in the area. I cook for 80 people who are in need of food. I don't run it alone I have some help from members of the family," and described how the canteen helped her, even though living conditions were still difficult.

"Before I had this canteen things were really bad. If I hadn't have got this canteen I would have probably left for the countryside. I don't know what I'd have done. The canteen is helping me because we are no longer hungry. I use most of the money to buy food for the family. There are nine of us living together in a shelter – including my mother, my two sisters, one brother and three of my brother's children. Before the earthquake we were not living together, though we were all living nearby - I was living alone.

"The earthquake has meant we are now all living together. We don't have a tent, we've made a shelter with some metal sheets - it's a little distance from here. This area where we live is very bad – it's not fit for humans to live. When it rains we have to stand on our feet and it's rained every night recently, we have no choice but to stay awake. We stay awake and tell jokes. We lost a brother in the earthquake and since then our mother has been very down we've been trying to encourage her. When we told her a joke she started to smile so now we tell her jokes to make her laugh – we want her to smile again."

A typical day for Marie's starts early, "I have to get up very early, around 5am, to start cooking

so that I have things boxed up for when people come to collect the meals. I have a lot to do as I've 80 plates of food to do... if I don't I'll find a large queue of people. I vary the meals, sometimes its rice, beans and vegetables, meat and a sauce. I wouldn't be able to cook all that by myself... so the children help when they are not at school. Some of my dead brother's children help and my husband's niece. I buy a lot of the food from a market about two miles away. I go every Saturday and buy enough for two days and I buy meat every day. I cook in the canteen from Monday to Friday, there is no canteen on Saturdays and Sundays." Though she says food is now more expensive than before the earthquake, she is still able to make a small profit.

Four years after the earthquake Marie Carole had saved enough money to buy a new shop, with the help of a loan from Oxfam: "A lot of us got solid support that will empower even the worst affected people. I know I'm not alone in this fight. When I think about January 12th and the first days after this disaster, I can say there was no more hope. And now, it's just amazing: I'm back on my feet!"

### Marie Carole Boursiquot Interview sheet 1 – answers for teachers

Direct speech	Reported speech
<p>Reporter: "What did you do before the earthquake?"            Marie Carole: "I had a grocery store and I sold rice, salt and spices."            Reporter: "What where you doing when the earthquake struck?"            Marie Carole: "I was not at home. I was in a meeting and not injured"</p>	<p>I talked to Marie Carole in April 2010. Before the earthquake, she had owned a grocery store where she sold rice, salt and spices. When the earthquake struck, she was in a meeting outdoors and fortunately was not injured.</p>
<p>Reporter: "What had happened to your store?"            Marie Carole: "It was badly damaged. The top part leaned over the bottom part. I stayed away."            Reporter: "Were you able to save your rice and other goods?"            Marie Carole: "People came and looted my goods. The store is now demolished."</p>	<p>When she went back to her store it was so badly damaged that she did not dare to go in. The top part leaned over the bottom part. She was unable to save any of her goods because people came and stole them. The store is now demolished.</p>
<p>Reporter: "What is the situation now?"            Marie Carole: "There is nothing here. Conditions are very bad. It is not fit for humans to live."            Reporter: "But you do live here. How do you manage?"            Marie Carole: "When it rains we have to stay awake and stand up. It has rained a lot lately. We tell jokes."</p>	<p>The living conditions in April 2010 were still very bad. Marie Carole felt no human should live in this way. Whenever it rained, and it had rained a lot recently, they had to stand up and stay awake at night. They told each other jokes.</p>
<p>Reporter: "Why do you tell jokes?"            Marie Carole: "My mother is very down. We lost a brother in the earthquake. The jokes make her smile"            Reporter: "What is your hope for the future?"            Marie Carole: "I want to own another shop. Shop keeping is what I am good at."</p>	<p>The main reason for telling jokes was to cheer up her mother and make her smile. Her mother had lost her son, Marie Carole's brother, in the earthquake and she often got very depressed. When asked what she would like to do in the future Marie Carole said she would like to own a shop again. She felt that she was good at shop keeping.</p>

## Interview sheet 1: Interview with Marie Carole Boursiquot

Marie's interview is all mixed up! Can you arrange the boxes in the right way?

1. Decide which speeches are direct speech and which are reported (or indirect) descriptions.
2. Match the correct direct speech boxes with the correct reported speeches.
3. Place matched pairs of speeches and descriptions in the right order for the interview.

<p>Reporter: "What did you do before the earthquake?"          Marie Carole: "I had a grocery store and I sold rice, salt and spices."          Reporter: "What where you doing when the earthquake struck?"          Marie Carole: "I was not at home. I was in a meeting and not injured"</p>	<p>The main reason for telling jokes was to cheer up her mother and make her smile. Her mother had lost her son, Marie Carole's brother, in the earthquake and she often got very depressed. When asked what she would like to do in the future Marie Carole said she would like to own a shop again. She felt that she was good at shop keeping.</p>
<p>The living conditions in April 2010 were still very bad. Marie Carole felt no human should live in this way. Whenever it rained, and it had rained a lot recently, they had to stand up and stay awake at night. They told each other jokes.</p>	<p>Reporter: "What had happened to your store?"          Marie Carole: "It was badly damaged. The top part leaned over the bottom part. I stayed away."          Reporter: "Were you able to save your rice and other goods?"          Marie Carole: "People came and looted my goods. The store is now demolished."</p>
<p>Reporter: "What is the situation now?"          Marie Carole: "There is nothing here. Conditions are very bad. It is not fit for humans to live."          Reporter: "But you do live here. How do you manage?"          Marie Carole: "When it rains we have to stay awake and stand up. It has rained a lot lately. We tell jokes."</p>	<p>I talked to Marie Carole in April 2010. Before the earthquake, she had owned a grocery store where she sold rice, salt and spices. When the earthquake struck, she was in a meeting outdoors and fortunately was not injured.</p>
<p>When she went back to her store it was so badly damaged that she did not dare to go in. The top part leaned over the bottom part. She was unable to save any of her goods because people came and stole them. The store is now demolished.</p>	<p>Reporter: "Why do you tell jokes?"          Marie Carole: "My mother is very down. We lost a brother in the earthquake. The jokes make her smile"          Reporter: "What is your hope for the future?"          Marie Carole: "I want to own another shop. Shop keeping is what I am good at."</p>

## Interview sheet 2



Photo credit: Kateryna Perus

This is a continuation of the interview with Marie Carole Boursiquot:

*Reporter: "When was your first contact with Oxfam?"*

Marie Carole: "In March 2010 Oxfam helped me to start a community canteen. Every day I cooked a hot meal for 80 people who are in need of food. Working meant that I could buy food for my family and start a small business again."

*Reporter: "What are the main problems for you?"*

Marie Carole "The area is covered by all the rubble from the collapsed buildings. I have a large family to support including the three children of my brother who died. Before the earthquake we lived in different houses, but now all nine of us live in a temporary shelter made of metal sheets. My family help me with the canteen."

*Reporter: "Tell me about the work in the canteen."*

Marie Carole: "I have to get up very early at around 5am to start cooking. I cook rice, beans and vegetables, or meat and a sauce. I cook 80 meals. It all has to be boxed up early. If I am late a big queue of hungry people forms! My children help before they go to school. I cook from Monday to Friday. There is no canteen on Saturday or Sunday, but I have to travel on Saturday to buy food from a market two miles from here."

*Reporter: "How do you feel about things now?"*

Marie Carole: "After the earthquake we had no hope. Then a small amount of money from Oxfam started us off again. I love the canteen work and, even though food is more expensive than before the earthquake, I am able to make a small profit. This means that I will be able to have a shop again. I am glad to be able to help people in my community. I feel much more confident now, and although things are still hard, I feel everything will get better."