

## **Ready for the Real Thing**

by Krizo Povas

*based on a true story*



This Activity Set was made possible through support from the New York State Education Department, Office of Adult Career and Continuing Education Services. The Activity Set uses a Creative Commons license of Attribution-NonCommercial 4.0 International (CC BY-NC 4.0), which means that they can be shared, copied and redistributed in any form, as long as the document retains attribution to CUNY/NYSED for their creation.



Is this a true story?

Yes, most of the story is true. The names are different and the photos are new. It was many years ago.

*Note: She used English for a fast response, but the people who answer 911 phone calls can help people in many languages.*

*“Language translation service is a best practice for 911 centers, but the process and capabilities can change from agency to agency.”*

*- The National Highway Traffic Safety administration. They oversee 911 services.*

*For more information:*

*<https://www.nasna922.org> or [911.gov](https://www.911.gov).*

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Chapter 1.....I Am From

Chapter 2.....At School

Chapter 2.....Home Alone

Chapter 3.....New Baby

## CHAPTER 1 I AM FROM



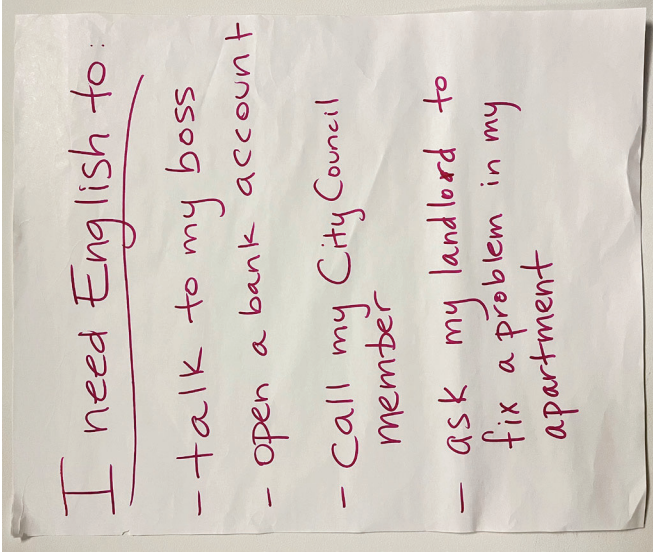
My name is Maria. I am from Ecuador.  
Ecuador is in South America.



We are ready to learn new vocabulary  
and practice a new lesson.  
We know if we can do it in  
the classroom, we can do it in real life.  
  
Let's practice!!!

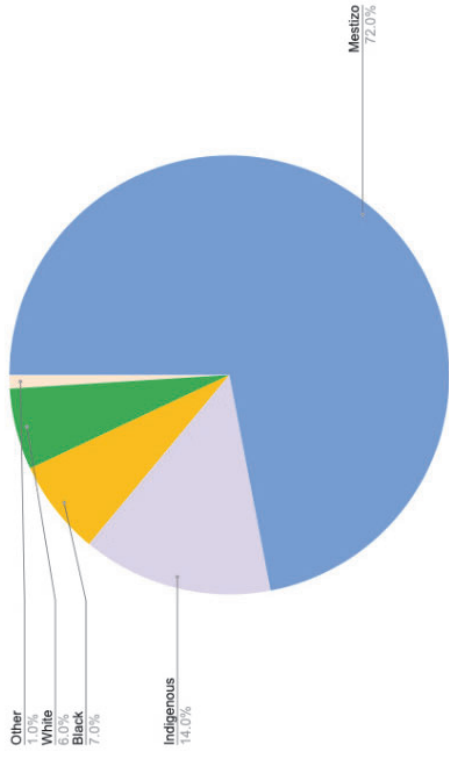
Our teacher says, "How about role-playing other real-life situations to use in the future?"

Students give examples:



Ecuador is a diverse country,  
like the United States.  
There are big cities and little villages.





There are different groups of people:  
 Mestizo, Indigenous, Black, White,  
 and others.



I share with the class my emergency  
 experience. I say, "Thank you, Teacher,  
 and all my classmates!"

I practiced calling 911 in the classroom  
 and it helped me to do it in real life.

Everybody is proud of me!

## CHAPTER 4 A NEW BABY



I visit our English school with my son,  
JOSE GOMEZ.

Everybody is excited to see my baby  
boy!

And many different languages!  
I speak Spanish.

*There more than 10  
indigenous languages  
in Ecuador.*

Source: <https://www.britannica.com/place/Ecuador/People>

## CHAPTER 2 AT SCHOOL



Now I live in the United States.

My goal is to learn English.

I go to English class every day.



My child is born a few hours later.

It's a beautiful baby boy.

Can you guess his name?

(Look for the answer in the last chapter.)



911 Operator:

“What’s your  
phone number?”

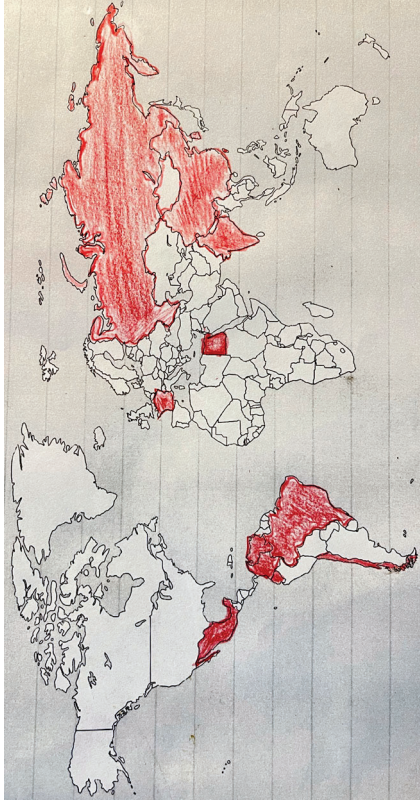
I say:  
“917-655-9458.”

911 Operator:

“The ambulance will be  
there in a few minutes.”

I say:  
“Please hurry up!”

The ambulance arrives and takes me to  
the hospital.



My classmates are from Africa, Asia,  
Central America, Europe, North America,  
and South America.



911 Operator:  
 “What’s your name?”

I answer clearly  
 and slowly:  
 “Maria. M-A-R-I-A.  
 Gomez. G-O-M-E-Z.”

911 Operator:  
 “What’s your address?”

I say:  
 “31-25 Roosevelt Avenue  
 Apartment 8G  
 Jackson Heights  
 New York, 11385.”



We come from many countries.



I dial 911.

911 Operator:

“What’s your emergency?”

I answer:

“Pregnant,

I have big pain.”

I repeat, “Big pain!”

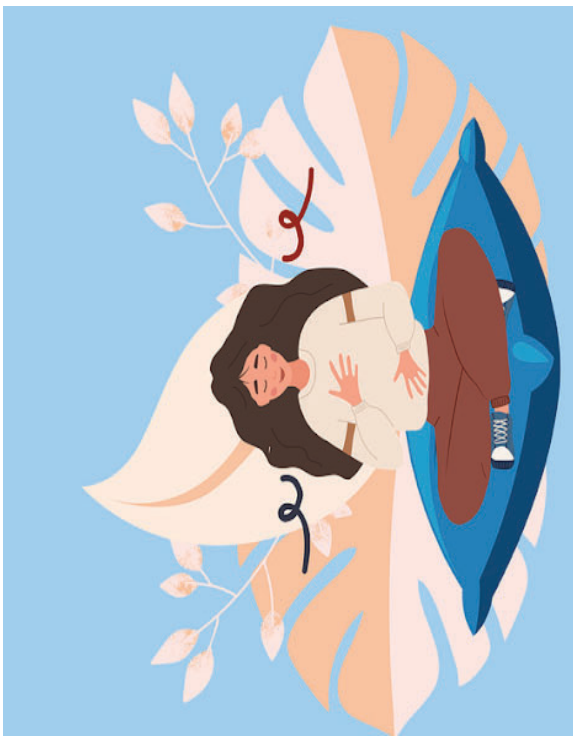
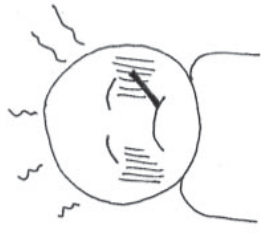


We speak many languages: Spanish,

Chinese, Arabic, French and others.

We all need to learn English!

Today we learn new words for common illnesses.

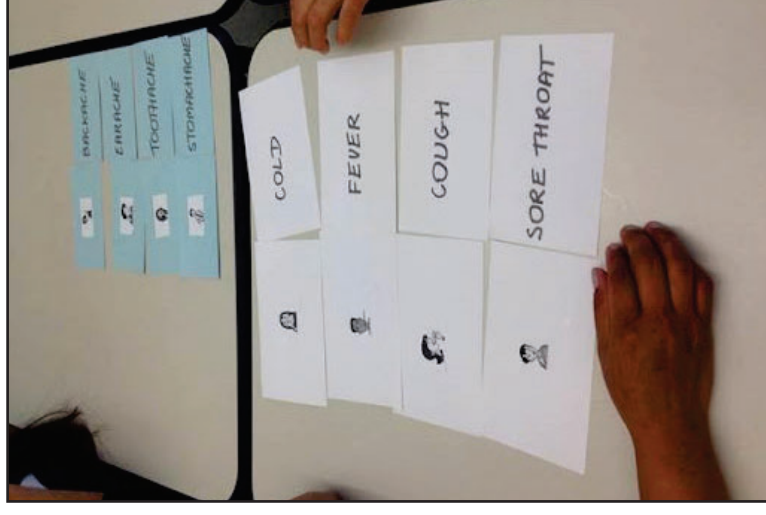


I take a deep breath.

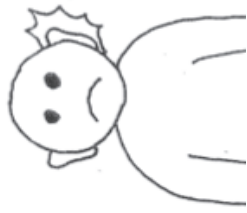


I imagine I am in the classroom, and  
I role-play with my partner.

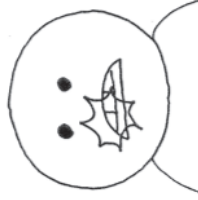
We match words with pictures.



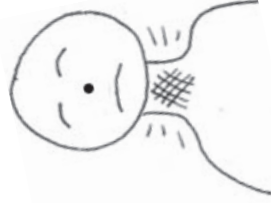
We practice the new words.



“ I have an earache.”



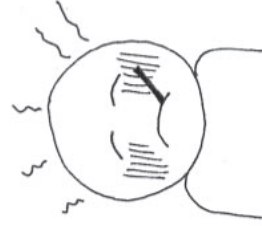
“ I have a toothache.”



“ I have a sore throat.”



“ I have a cold.”



“ I have a fever.”

Suddenly, I feel sick.

I have a special medical condition.

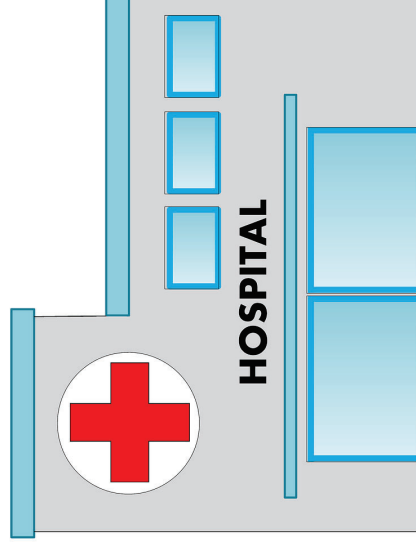
I remember my doctor said, “If you feel pain, call 911!”

My husband is at work and my neighbors are on vacation.

**Can I do it? Can I call 911?**



And if we have twins?



Then we talk about medical emergencies.



I have a severe headache.



I have a bad stomachache.



I have chest pains.

*It's a Girl*

If it's a girl, maybe Sabrina, Selina, or  
Emma.

*It's a Boy*

If it's a boy, maybe Jose, Martin, or  
Matthew.



## CHAPTER 2 HOME ALONE



I am at home alone.

I think about names for the baby.



My child has a very high fever.



My father has an asthma attack.



My friend has a broken arm.



We review the new vocabulary.

For example, my teacher says,

“I have a headache.”

We all put our hands on our heads.



Can I do it? I hope so.

I am pregnant with my first child.

I am going to be a mother soon.



3) We practice without the script.

Our teacher says, "You can do it!"

You can call 911 in a real-life situation!"



Our teacher says,

"I have a stomachache."

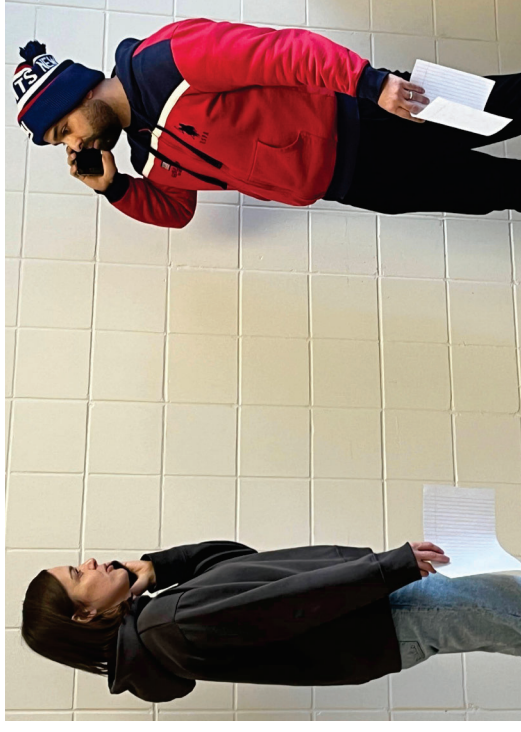
We put our hands on our stomachs.



Next, we talk with a partner.

We answer these questions:

- Which health problems are emergencies?
- Why?



2) We practice with the script.

Now we all role-play calling 911.

One student is a 911 operator.

Another student calls to report a medical emergency.



We follow the steps.

1) We read the dialogue.



Then we match picture cards again.

We work with a partner.

- Which health problems are emergencies?
- Why?

We put the cards in groups:

These common illnesses are not emergencies.



We practice with different partners  
giving our information:

- name
- phone
- address
- medical emergency

We speak slowly and clearly.

We repeat with many partners.



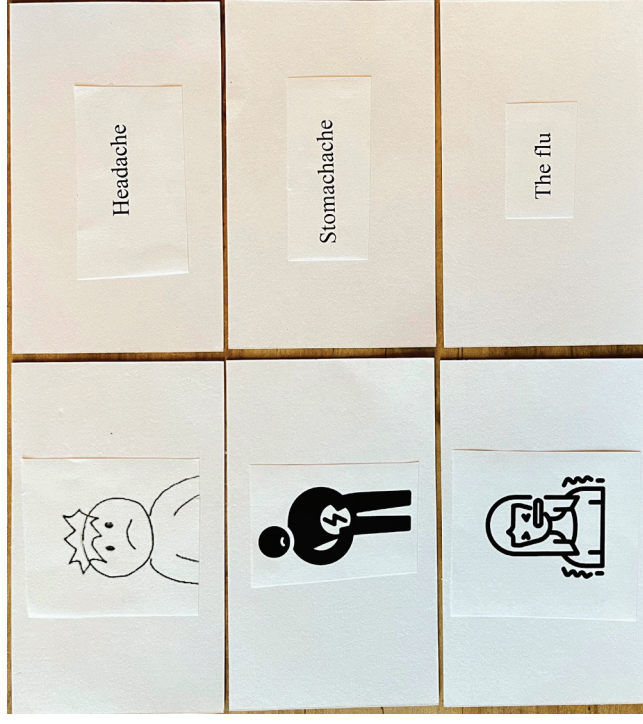
Our teacher demonstrates how to report a medical emergency.

She pretends to call 911.

She says her information slowly and clearly:

- her name
- her phone
- her address
- her medical emergency

These medical conditions may be emergencies.



These medical conditions are emergencies.



Now we imagine a personal emergency.

We write our information in a chart.

This is my chart:

Emergency	Why do you think it is an emergency?	Full Name	Phone Number	Address
My baby is sick.	My baby has a very high fever.	Maria Gomez	917-655-9458	31-25 Roosevelt Ave. Apt. 8G, Jackson Heights, N.Y. 11385