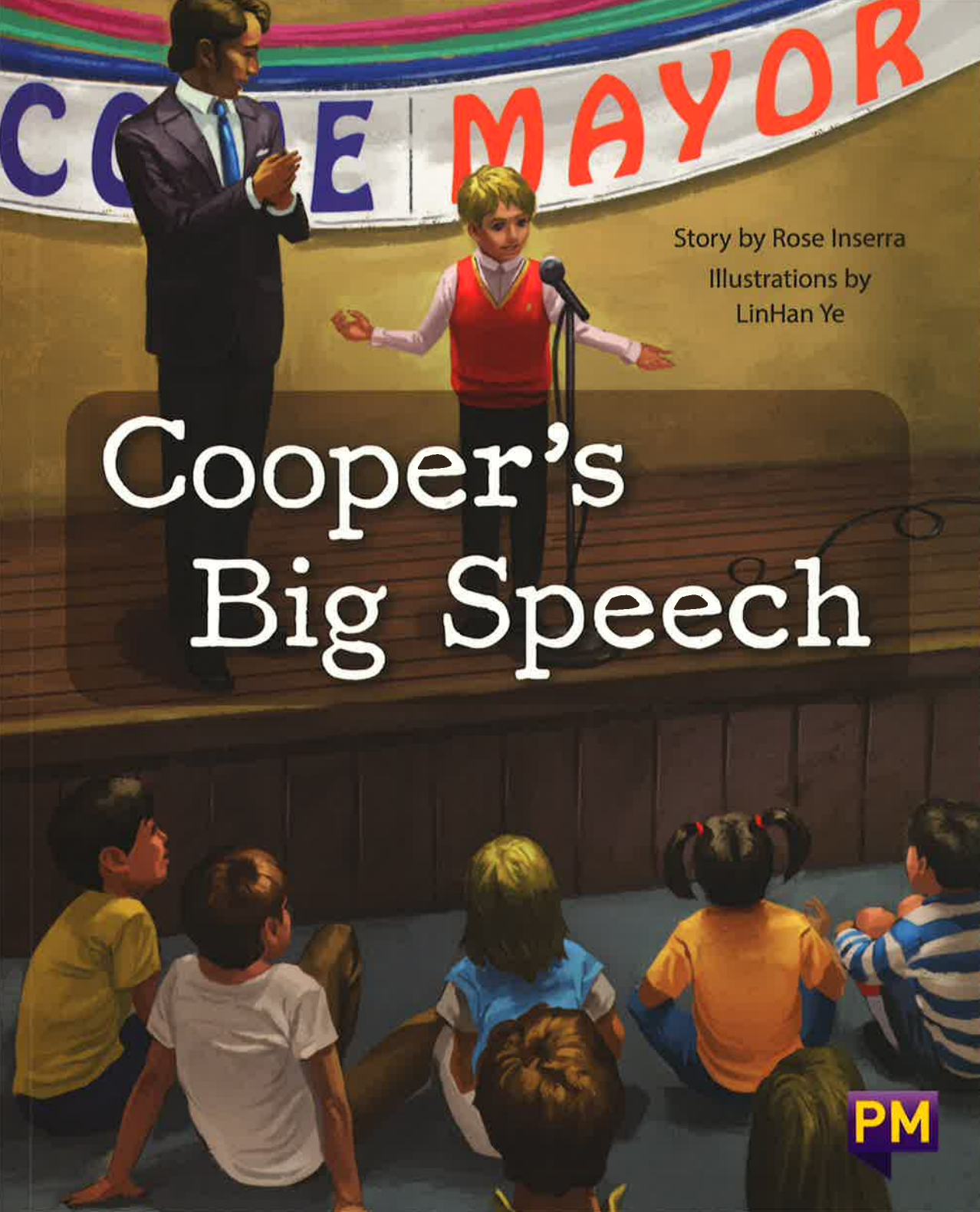


Cooper's Big Speech

Story by Rose Inserra
Illustrations by
LinHan Ye

PM

For teachers' inspection ONLY

Cooper's Big Speech

Level 23

Running Words 1121 **Text Type** Narrative (Imaginative)

Curriculum Areas Literacy; Personal and Social Capability

Retelling to encourage critical thinking about the content

Ask each student to retell the story in his or her own words.

Record the retelling for further discussion and reflection.

Questions to reinforce meaning and stimulate discussion

Literal

1 What happened to Cooper the last time he gave a speech?

2 Why did everyone enjoy Aunt Jackie's speech?

3 What was Aunt Jackie's most important advice?

Inferential

4 Why was Cooper chosen to give the speech to welcome the mayor?

5 How did Olivia help Cooper?

6 Why were Cooper's parents pleased he had been chosen to give the speech?

7 Why did Cooper practise his speech before he went to sleep?

8 Why was Cooper so surprised to see Mr Hill at school?

9 Why did Ms Price say Cooper would be perfect to play the part of Oliver?

Applied Knowledge

10 Why do people's hearts seem to thump when they are nervous?

11 Why is it important to look at the audience when giving a speech?

12 What is a 'deal'?

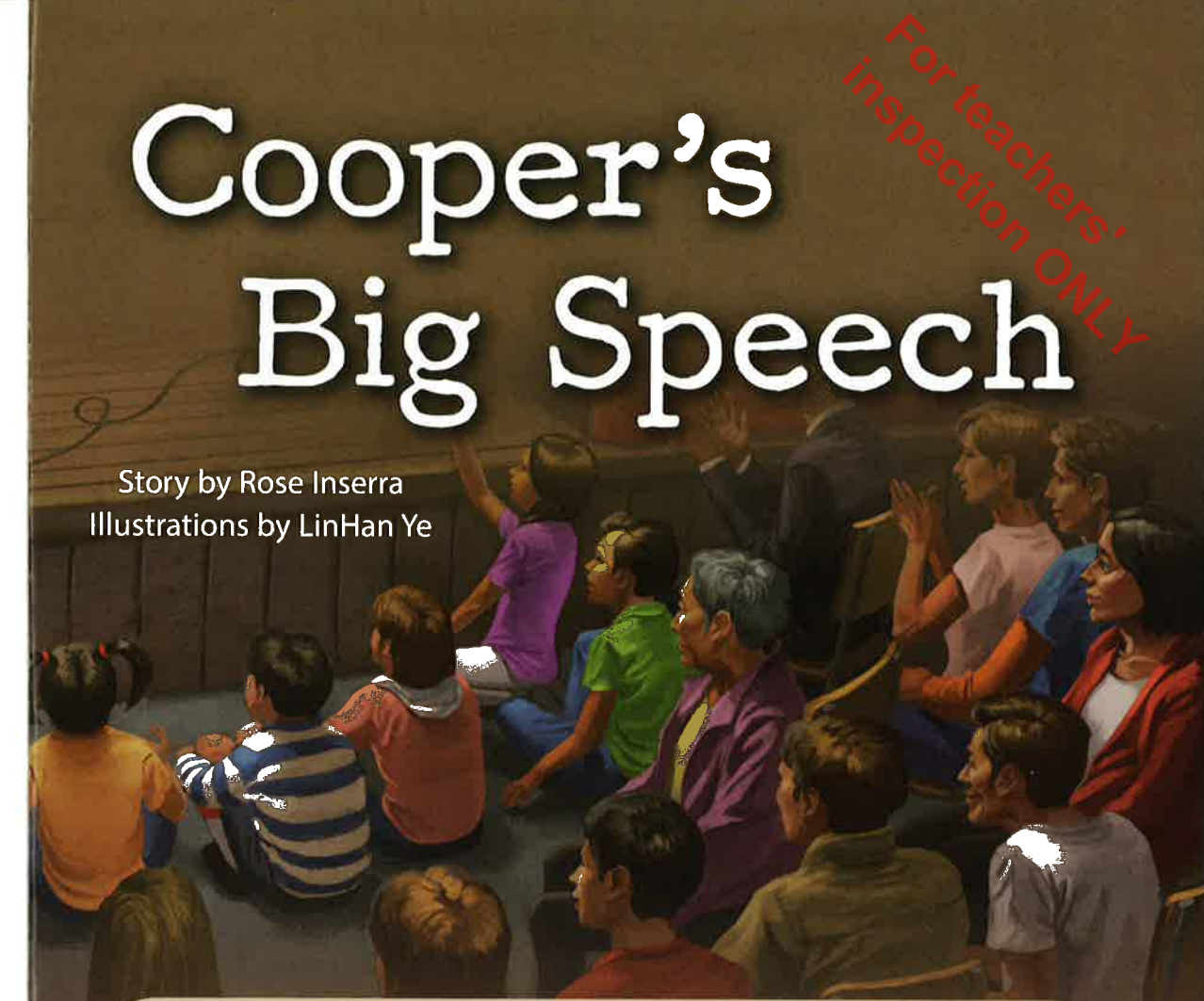
Links with other PM Guided Reading Books and Cards

Level 23	Card	Procedure	*Presenting a School Speech*
Level 23	Book	Narrative	*Olivia's First Surf*
Level 23	Book	Narrative	*Camp Buddies*

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Chapter 4	The Big Speech	17

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Chapter 1

The Announcement



"Congratulations, Cooper," announced Ms Price. "You have been chosen to make a speech to welcome the mayor to our school."

Cooper's heart began to thump loudly. He hated speaking in front of people. This was the worst day of his life.

"But ... but ... Ms Price ... I can't ... I get nervous," Cooper stammered.

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Everybody in the class stared at Cooper.
His face turned red and he wished the floor
would swallow him up.



"I think you'll be just perfect, Cooper," Ms Price told him.

"You can do it easily," said Cooper's friend, Olivia.
"You've just got to practise."

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The speech was only a few days away.
Cooper didn't have much time to practise.
He didn't even know what to say or the way to say it.
This made him feel anxious.

The last time he had to make a speech,
he felt dizzy, words got stuck in his throat,
his hands got sweaty and his legs began to shake.
He felt so nervous that he couldn't read a single word
from his speech. It was awful.

And now I have to do it all again!
he thought, feeling miserable.

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When Cooper arrived home from school,
his dog, Nugget, jumped on him.
He wagged his tail and wanted to play,
but Cooper was feeling too worried to play.
He had to explain to his mum and dad
why he didn't want to give the speech.

"You'll be brilliant, Cooper," his mum said
when she heard the news.

Cooper's dad gave him a hug and said,
"That's wonderful news."

"I'm not sure I can speak in front of people,"
Cooper said anxiously.

"Yes, you can," his mum replied.
"We'll ask Aunt Jackie to help you.
She always gives speeches."