

## Project #1—Role Play

### Introduction

Isilma tried hard to help Juana. If she had more knowledge about depression, how could she have helped Juana more? Could Juana’s teachers and friends have helped?

### Task

Your task is to write and perform a role play of Juana’s interactions with other people. Include conversations and nonverbal behaviors (posture, facial expressions, ways people move, etc.). Show helpful as well as unhelpful ways to interact with Juana.

### Skills

Critical thinking, research, writing, acting, working in a group, making a presentation

### Process

1. Make sure you read and understand the instructions before you begin working on your project.
2. Discuss the following in a group: Does anyone in the group know someone with depression or want to share his or her experience with it? Does anyone have training or work experience with people who have depression? Share knowledge with the group.
3. Go to the Project Care website (<http://projectcare.worlded.org/depression/information.html#project1>). You will find helpful information that you can use in your project.
4. Review the case study and pay special attention to the interactions Juana had with people.
5. Discuss Juana’s interactions with her family and friends. Did they help her? Were there better ways to help her?
6. Decide which role(s) each student will play:
  - a. Juana
  - b. Juana’s mother Isilma
  - c. Her sister Rosa
  - d. Juana’s doctor
7. Discuss how to write the script. Then write the script, making sure each person has equal opportunity to speak in the drama. It does not have to be a complete drama; each role can be in a separate scene.
8. Make questions to ask the class before the role play. The questions should help classmates think about interactions between Juana and others. For example: Which conversations were helpful? Which were not helpful? Why? What would be better ways to handle the situation?
9. Give your work to the teacher to check so you can revise it if necessary.

10. Practice so that you don't have to read from the script.
11. Set up the classroom for the role play. Write the questions for the class on the board. Have the class sit in a circle with a space in the middle for the group to perform the role play. Present the role play.
12. With the class, have a discussion on the best way to help people who are depressed by asking the class to respond to the questions on the board.