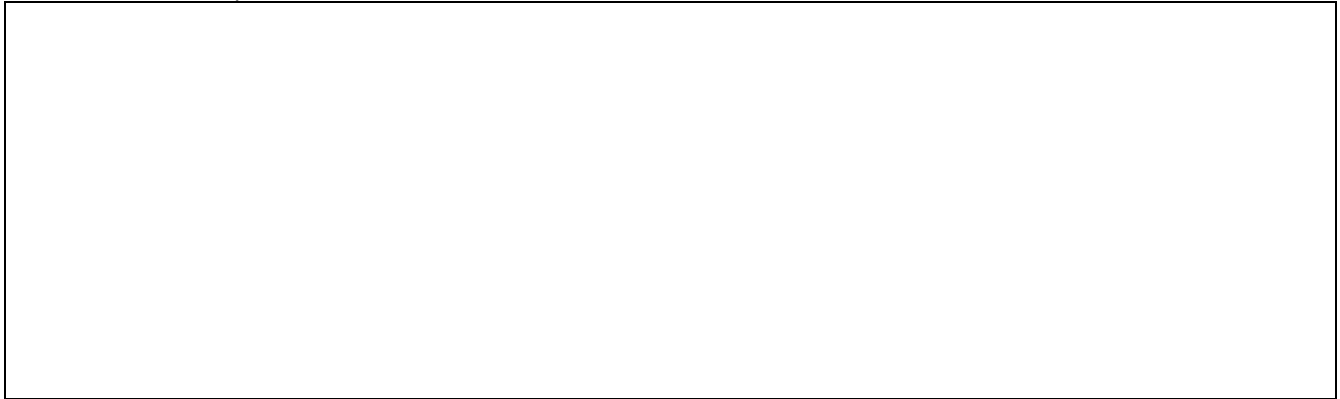


The Audition

Illustrate the story here:

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for students to draw an illustration of the story.

Today is a big day for Ricardo. The theater club is holding auditions for the school play. Acting is Ricardo's passion. He is auditioning for the lead role. This year's play is about a mission to outer space. It is packed with action and ends with a real explosion!

Ricardo walked into the theater club meeting. He excitedly handed his permission slip to the director and found a seat. He listened as the director explained how the audition would work. "Remember to be creative and use your imaginations. Any questions before we begin?"

No questions. Everyone was ready to begin. The students took turns auditioning for the director. There was a lot of competition, but Ricardo did a great job! Once the auditions were finished, the director announced the parts.

"This was a tough decision," she said. "You each made a great impression. The lead role goes to...Ricardo!" Ricardo leaped out of his seat with joy. His friends clapped for him. He could not wait to run home and start memorizing his lines.