



Bursting the Bubble



From: *Talking to Learn* by Jennifer Glass, Joan Green and Kathleen Gould Lundy, pg. 74

Have students look closely at the way the artist has portrayed the characters in a graphic novel.

Have students read, examine the graphic:

- What can the reader learn about the characters from their body language?
- What do their gestures tell us?
- How does their posture give us instant clues about their mood or state of mind? (Are they nervous, protective, confident, aggressive, at ease, frightened?)

After they have discussed the way that the images present the characters, have students enlarge the speech bubbles or “burst” them so that we can hear more about what the characters are **thinking**, **feeling**, and **wondering** about.

1. Get into groups of 5 to 8 people.
2. Look at the picture and think about: If you could burst the speech bubbles at a significant moment and allow a character to describe what he or she is really thinking and feeling, what would the character say?



For example, the character with the backpack in the graphic might say:

“I have been independent most of my life and I am not about to take advice from you!”

3. Take the role of the character and read it out loud.
4. Some students can continue the role of the character and allow themselves to be questioned by the rest of the class.

4. Be ready to present to the large group. HAVE FUN!