Shipwrecked sailor

Tell the class that you are going to pretend to be a shipwrecked sailor washed up on the beach near their home.

You will be in a very needy condition but, unfortunately, cannot speak a word of their strange language (English!).

You will speak to them only in Cornish but they will have to check their understanding by miming back to you what they think you have said.

Sit on a chair (or, if you are brave enough, get swept ashore and lie gasping on the carpet!) Look rather desperate and say 'My a vynn eva!' Let the class be confused or perplexed for a little while. If they speak to you in English, just repeat 'My a vynn eva!'

You can easily come out of role at any time; swap back to being 'Teacher' just by standing up, talk about the survivor in the third person eg 'What do you think he/she wants? How could we check if we understand correctly?'

Gently nudge the class into the idea of miming back to the survivor what they think he/she wants.

When someone mimes drinking, become excited and pleased and say 'My a vynn eva!' nodding enthusiastically. Accept the mime drink offered and drink it!

Now announce 'My a vynn dybri!' and allow the class to struggle for understanding. When someone mimes eating, become excited and pleased and say 'My a vynn dybri!' nodding enthusiastically. Accept the mime-food offered and eat it!

Once fed and watered the survivor could feel very tired and want to sleep, 'My a vynn koska!' or be chirpy enough to want to play, 'My a vynn gwari!' or homesick enough to want to swim back home, 'My a vynn neuvya!'

Once you have been through the basic vocabulary, give groups of pupils the pictures and labels and challenge them to match them correctly.