

2.4 Speaking and writing

GOALS ■ Engage a listener and show interest ■ Write a narrative

Speaking & Listening showing interest

- 1a Work with a partner. Look at the pictures and words. What do you think happened in this true story?



- b Ask your teacher *yes/no* questions to find out more about the story.
- c When you think you have enough facts, work together with your partner to tell the whole story.
- 2 2.6))) Listen to the story and compare with your ideas.

- 3 Which of these statements do you agree with? Why? Discuss with a partner.
- Coincidences are often meaningful and 'meant to happen'.
 - Coincidences are just maths. If enough people are involved, many odd-seeming coincidences will happen. For example, at a typical football match with 50,000 people, statistically 135 people will share your birthday.
- 4a 2.6))) Listen again and write down the phrases the speakers use to engage the listener and show interest.
- b Check your answers in the Language for speaking box.

LANGUAGE FOR SPEAKING engaging the listener and showing interest

Engaging the listener

I heard this incredible story about ...
Someone told me about ...
You're not going to believe this, but ...

Showing interest

Really?
How amazing/surprising ...!
That's awful/incredible ...!
What, you mean ...?
No way!
You're joking!

PRONUNCIATION intonation – showing interest

- 5a 2.7))) Listen to the ways of showing interest. For each one, mark if you think the speaker sounds interested or not interested. What makes their voice sound interested?
- 1 What happened?
 - 2 Oh no, that's awful.
 - 3 You're joking.
 - 4 What, you mean the ring was on the carrot?!
 - 5 Really?
 - 6 No way! That's incredible!
- b 2.7))) Listen and repeat.
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- 6 Work with a partner. Student A, turn to page 127. Student B, turn to page 133.

Reading & Writing a narrative

7a Put the sections in the right order to make a logical story.

- A As soon as he told his son, they hugged each other and went for a coffee to talk. Barry had lost contact with his family while he was working abroad.
- B After a while, the woman happened to notice Barry's identity card, hanging up in the cab. 'Isn't that funny,' she said to her boyfriend, 'you've got the same name as the taxi driver.'
- C The man then said, jokingly, 'Is your first name Barry?' In an instant, the taxi driver's mouth went dry. He waited until there was somewhere safe to park, pulled the car over and said, 'Yes.' The taxi driver had realized that the man in the back of his cab was his son, who he had not seen for thirty-four years.
- D Colin said, 'I didn't recognize him at all, but it is great to have my dad back.'
- E A few years ago, a taxi driver called Barry Bagshaw had a life-changing experience when he went to work one day.
- F It seemed like any other day. Barry picked up a man and his girlfriend from a hotel in the seaside town where he lived.
- G By an amazing coincidence, it turned out that his son, Colin, who had been living in South Africa, had recently arrived to take up a new job in the same small town where his father lived.

b Which sections relate to the narrative structure from the Communication exercise in Lesson 2.1?

- 1 Announcing a story is about to start
- 2 Giving background information
- 3 Main events
- 4 Conclusion
- 5 Final comment



8a Read the story again and underline any words and phrases used to say *when* something happened.

b How many of the time expressions in the Language for writing box did you find?

LANGUAGE FOR WRITING time expressions

In a narrative it is important to say *when* events happened, as well as how quickly they happened. Try to use a variety of time expressions.

*After a while/In the end/In an instant/Just then
A few years/months/weeks/days/hours ago
Recently
Straightaway*

9 Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first, using a time expression from the Language for writing box. There is one expression you do not need.

- 1 As soon as he heard the news, he rang her.
When he heard the news, he _____.
- 2 Not long ago he had changed his job.
He had changed his job _____.
- 3 At that moment, the car suddenly stopped.
_____, the car suddenly stopped.
- 4 Finally, he went back to Australia.
_____, he went back to Australia.
- 5 Within seconds, everything had changed.
_____, everything had changed.
- 6 A short time later, he picked up his bag and left.
_____, he picked up his bag and left.

10 Use the following story skeleton, or your own ideas, to write a story about a coincidence. Think about the order of events, and how to use time expressions to link the events together.

- Man paints picture and sends it to a gallery.
- Man finds picture thrown into his garden.
- Did gallery owner really hate it?
- Man rings gallery owner/asks why she did this.
- Gallery owner says she really likes picture.
- Picture and other things stolen from her car.
- Thieves kept valuables/threw picture away into a garden.
- Thieves threw picture away into artist's garden!

11 Read your partner's version of the story and answer the questions.

- 1 What time expressions have they used?
- 2 How is their story the same as or different from yours?