

3.2 Going up... One man's lift nightmare

GOALS ■ Talk about feelings ■ Talk about the past (2)

Vocabulary & Speaking adjectives for describing feelings

1a Work with a partner. Look at the photos. How is the person feeling? Choose one or more words from the box.



guilty in a good mood scared nervous pleased exhausted embarrassed disappointed calm confused lonely angry anxious stressed excited

- b 3.5))) Which words describe a) a positive feeling and b) a negative feeling? Listen and check your answers.
- c 3.6))) Listen and repeat the words.
- 2 3.7))) Listen to eight short extracts. After each one discuss with a partner how you think each person is feeling.
I think he's feeling anxious and maybe stressed.
- 3 Choose three or four words from exercise 1a. Tell your partner when you have these feelings.
*I get angry when people drop rubbish in the street.
I feel exhausted most days!*

Grammar & Reading past simple and past continuous

- 4 Read the introduction to an online article. Work with a partner and guess the answers to the questions below.
- Which of the feelings in exercise 1a do you think he had?
 - In which order do you think he had them?
- 5 Read the article and check your answers to exercise 4.
- 6 Work with a partner and discuss the questions.
- How often do you take lifts?
 - Have you ever been stuck in a lift?
 - What would you do in Nicholas White's situation?
 - Who would you like/hate to be stuck in a lift with?

Nightmare stories on video

Our nightmare story this week is about Nicholas White, who was stuck in a lift for 41 hours. See the video [here](#).



34-year-old Nicholas White was a manager for a business magazine in New York. One Friday night he was working late at the office when he decided to go outside for a quick cigarette. It was the longest cigarette break of his life.

While White was returning to his office on the 43rd floor, the lift suddenly stopped between floors. He calmly pushed the alarm button and waited for an answer. Nothing. He began to get anxious.

He rang it a few more times. Then he pulled the button out, so that the alarm rang and rang continuously. Still no answer. It was 11 p.m. and nobody was working – the building was empty. Now he was frightened. He wasn't wearing a watch.

He had no phone, no food and no water.

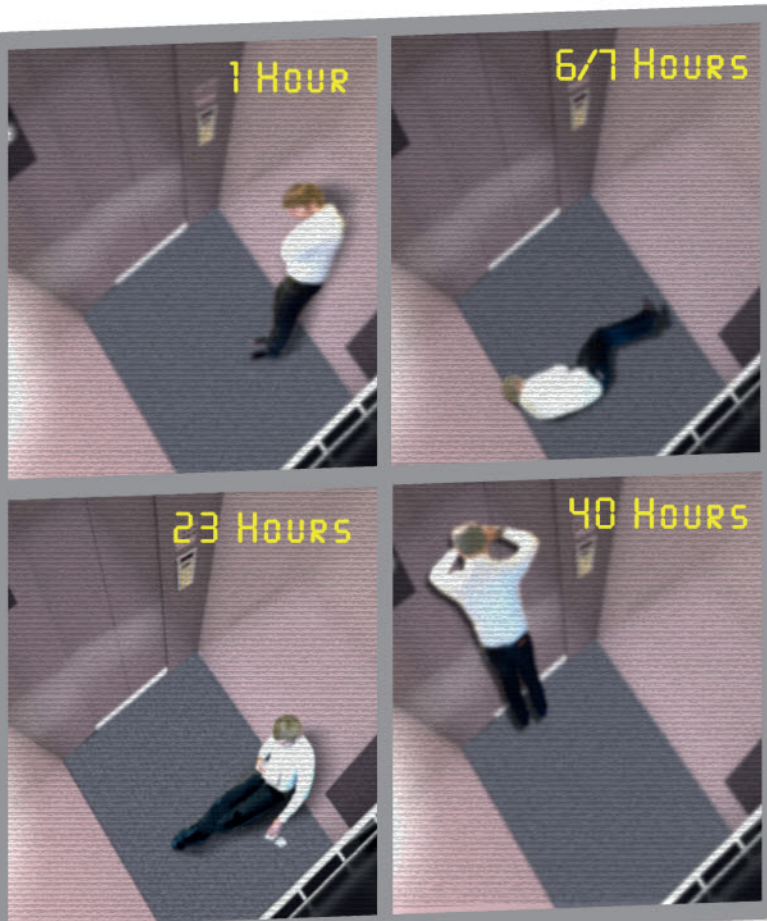
White walked round and round the lift like an insect stuck in a box. Sometimes he lay on the floor, with his face down because the light was very bright. He tried to stay calm by thinking about other things. At one point he took out his wallet and read the back of a football match ticket. After some time, he felt angry – very angry. Why wasn't the lift

- 7 Read the Grammar focus box and match the **highlighted** sentences in the article to uses 1–4.

GRAMMAR FOCUS past simple and past continuous

- We use the past continuous to talk about actions which were unfinished at a past time.
At 10.45, he was smoking a cigarette.
- We use the past simple for finished actions and things that happened one after another.
He sat down, turned on his computer and started to work.
- We often use the past simple and past continuous together. We use the past continuous for the longer action. We use the past simple for a shorter action that happened while the longer action was happening.
While he was returning to his office, the lift suddenly stopped between floors.
- We use the past simple for repeated past actions.
He hit the walls several times.

→ Grammar Reference page 139



working?! Why was nobody answering?! He hit the walls several times and shouted at the video camera. The noise of the alarm was driving him crazy, but he didn't want to turn it off.

As time passed he thought that he was going to die without water. Friday turned to Saturday, and Saturday to Sunday. White was now exhausted. Then, suddenly, at 4 p.m., a voice on the intercom asked, 'Is someone in there?'

- 8 Complete the rest of the story about Nicholas White's lift experience. Use the past simple or past continuous form of the verbs in brackets.

When the voice came over the lift's intercom at 4 p.m. on Sunday, White ¹ _____ (lie) on the floor, half asleep. He was extremely cold as he ² _____ (not wear) a jacket. When he heard the voice he ³ _____ (jump) to his feet. Finally he was free! Almost. First the guard ⁴ _____ (ask) him lots of security questions, 'Where do you work? Which is your office?' The 'interview' lasted a very long time. Then, slowly, the door ⁵ _____ (open). So, what ⁶ _____ he _____ (do) first? He took the lift up to the 43rd floor to get his jacket from his office. On his desk an angry note from a work colleague ⁷ _____ (wait) for him. It said, 'Why ⁸ _____ you _____ (go) home? We had so much work to do!' Of course, she ⁹ _____ (feel) very guilty when she found out the truth!



- 9a 3.8))) Listen and write down the five questions you hear.

b Ask and answer the questions with a partner.

- 10a **TASK** Write three sentences. Two sentences should be about something that really happened to you in the past. One sentence should be an invented experience. Your aim is to persuade your partner that all three sentences are true. Use the ideas below or your own ideas.

- something unusual that you drank or ate
- a competition that you won
- a bone that you broke
- a dangerous animal that you saw
- a big sports event or concert that you went to
- a famous person that you met

I saw a bear when I was on holiday in Canada.

I once met Bill Gates.

I was on TV last year.

- b Work with a partner. Student A, read your three sentences. Try to convince your partner that all three sentences are true. Student B, ask questions about each sentence. Use the past simple and past continuous. Then decide which sentence is not true.

A *I saw a bear.*

B *What were you doing?*

A *I was walking through a forest.*

B *What was the bear doing? ... etc.*

B *I think this is true/a lie.*

- c Now change roles and repeat the activity.

▶ VOX POPS VIDEO 3