

UNIT 8 STORIES WE TELL

1 VOCABULARY: embarrassing events

A Complete the phrases with the words from the box.

arrive click forget get (x2) say send spill

- _____ someone's name
- _____ lost
- _____ a drink on someone
- _____ on 'Reply to all'
- _____ the wrong thing
- _____ the wrong day
- _____ late
- _____ a text to the wrong person



B Complete the quiz with the correct form of the verbs from Exercise A. Then answer the questions.

OOOPS! What's your most embarrassing mistake?

Have you ever ...

- | | | | |
|---------|--|-----|----|
| 1 _____ | someone's name, or worse, used the wrong name? | Yes | No |
| 2 _____ | a drink on someone? | Yes | No |
| 3 _____ | late for a job interview? | Yes | No |
| 4 _____ | the wrong thing at a dinner party? | Yes | No |
| 5 _____ | lost on the way to the airport? | Yes | No |
| 6 _____ | the wrong day for a party? | Yes | No |
| 7 _____ | an email to the wrong person? | Yes | No |
| 8 _____ | on 'Delete' by mistake? | Yes | No |

2 GRAMMAR: relative clauses

A Read the sentences and underline the relative pronoun.

- I picked up a coat that belonged to someone else.
- The waitress who served you is my sister.
- That's the house where I grew up.
- I sent an email to my friend which was forwarded to the whole office.
- Do you remember the time when my car stalled in a traffic jam?
- I put salt instead of sugar into the cake which I was making for her birthday.

B Complete the sentences with the correct relative pronoun.

- The most embarrassing moment was _____ I got up to make a speech and I spilt my drink.
- This is the recipe _____ my mother uses.
- This is the place _____ I fell over and twisted my ankle.
- I missed the train because the timetable _____ I was using was out of date.
- I sent an email _____ was a joke about my boss and he read it.
- This is the man _____ helped me when I got lost in the shopping centre.

C Join each pair of sentences using a relative clause.

- 1 This is the place. I lost my car keys here.

- 2 I sent a letter. It had the wrong address on it.

- 3 He called out to a woman. He thought she was an old friend.

- 4 Kyla made a dessert. It had paprika instead of cinnamon.

- 5 It was very embarrassing. I couldn't remember his name.

- 6 This is the photo. I sent it to the whole office by mistake.

WHAT'S RIGHT?

I took a bag which it belonged to someone else.



3 VOCABULARY: adjectives for describing stories

A **20** Listen to the speakers and choose an adjective from the box to describe their opinion of the stories.

childish disturbing entertaining gripping imaginative moving pointless unbelievable

- 1 _____
- 2 _____
- 3 _____
- 4 _____
- 5 _____
- 6 _____

Which two adjectives did you not use? _____

B Write adjectives from Exercise A to describe each film. You can choose more than one.

SEARCH

DVDs home

Browse reviews

Bargains

Deliveries

BUY NOW

It'll make you laugh and cry.
At the same time!

OUR PRICE: £12.00
REVIEWS: ★★★★★

Everybody said aliens didn't exist. They were wrong.

2

OUR PRICE: £12.00
REVIEWS: ★★★★★

The most original comedy-fantasy of the decade.

3

OUR PRICE: £12.00
REVIEWS: ★★★

Nonstop action. Nonstop thrills!

4

OUR PRICE: £12.00
REVIEWS: ★★

4 GRAMMAR: verb + gerund/infinitive

A Complete the table with the verbs from the box.

avoid continue decide deny dislike enjoy finish
hate hope like love manage refuse seem start

Verb + gerund	Verb + infinitive	Verb + gerund/infinitive

B Three sentences have a mistake. Rewrite the sentences correctly.

- When I've finished to read this book, I'll lend it to you.

- He always seems to write stories that have a sad ending.

- We hate going to films that are too frightening.

- My son loves to tell stories about his toy animals.

- My sister has decided going to Australia this year.

- We dislike to read science-fiction stories.



C Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verbs in brackets. Use infinitive or gerund.

- They love _____ (go) to film premieres.
- David always avoids _____ (speak) to Sarah.
- I managed _____ (buy) tickets for tonight's concert.
- My parents hate _____ (browse) the internet.
- Susan continues _____ (play) tennis despite her injury.
- Dan denied _____ (steal) the bike from the shed.
- Julia is refusing _____ (come) to the party with me.
- You don't really enjoy _____ (spend) time alone.
- We decided _____ (go) on holiday in July.
- Martha is planning _____ (write) a children's book.

WHAT'S RIGHT?


- Marc enjoys to work on his car.




5 LISTENING: predicting

A Look at the picture. What do you think the story will say about the personalities of these two creatures?


The ant is _____.
The grasshopper is _____.

B  **21** Listen to the first part of the story. Tick which of these things you think is going to happen in the second part.

- a) The grasshopper is going to help the ant.
b) The ant is going to take a rest and talk to the grasshopper.
c) The ant is going to go home.

C  **22** Listen to the second part of the story and check your answer. Then tick what you think will happen next.

- a) The grasshopper will get hungry. c) The grasshopper will live with the ants.
b) The ant will give him some food.

D  **23** Listen to the final part of the story and check your answer. Tick the sentence which best describes the message of the story.

- a) It is wise to prepare today for tomorrow.
b) It is best to be happy when the sun shines.



6 WRITING: checking your work

A There is one mistake in each sentence. Rewrite the sentences correctly. Then write what type of mistake it is: G (grammar), V (vocabulary), S (spelling) or P (punctuation).

- I had an embarrassing experience at work. _____
- We had take the wrong bus to school. _____
- Francisco said us the wrong information. _____
- I was really boring during the concert. _____
- It was the scariest film I've ever seen. _____
- My sister promised buying this book. _____

B Read the advert. Make a checklist for what information to include in your reply.

Tell us about the most embarrassing thing you've ever done!

Describe the background – when and where it happened, and who was involved. What did you do and what were the consequences? How did you feel at the time and how do you feel about it now? Then send it to us with your name and contact details. We'll give £100 for the best email.

- Describe the background – when, where, who 4 _____
- _____ 5 _____
- _____ 6 _____

C Read the email and say what information is missing.

The most embarrassing thing that I ever did was when I offered my boss a lift home from a business meeting but then I couldn't find my car in the multi-storey car park! I thought I had parked on level 2, but the car was on level 3. I felt like such an idiot!

Andy Smith, Birmingham email: andy@mail.com



Read and write

A Read the letter. Number the events in the correct order.

www.localcommunities.net

Dear editor,

You asked us to tell you our unbelievable stories. Well, here's mine!

I have a really big dog, Max, who loves chasing small animals. Now, I have a neighbour, Sara, right next door. Sara had a cute white rabbit called Snowball that lived in a wire cage. There's a fence between our two gardens, but Sara was always worried that Max was going to get into her garden and hurt Snowball. Max had got out a few times before, and he'd bitten the neighbour's cat once. So I was always careful to keep Max inside.

One day, Sara had gone to work. I was late myself and in my hurry I forgot to lock Max inside.

When I got home, Max wasn't in my garden. I looked for him and noticed that part of the fence had fallen down. Then I looked at Snowball's cage and saw the cage door open and Snowball was gone! And then I saw Max ... with Snowball in his mouth - already dead.

I know this was childish but I didn't want Sara to get angry with me. So I took Snowball into my house. I put him in the bath and washed him carefully (both Max and Snowball were pretty dirty, for some reason). Then I dried his fur with a hairdryer. I went next door, carefully put Snowball back in his cage and closed the door.

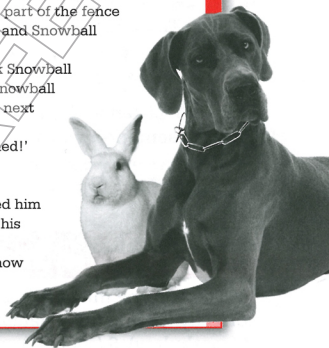
That night, Sara knocked on my door. 'The most frightening thing has happened!' she gasped.

'Really?' I asked innocently.

'You know my rabbit, Snowball,' she said. 'Well, he died last night, and I buried him in my back garden. But today ... when I got home from work ... he was back in his cage! And he's still there!'

Somehow I managed not to laugh. But I learnt my lesson. You can't always know what has happened just by looking at the evidence!

-Can't use my real name!



- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sara buried Snowball. | <input type="checkbox"/> The writer put Snowball back. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The writer washed Snowball. | <input type="checkbox"/> Max chased small animals. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Max dug up the rabbit. | <input type="checkbox"/> Sara went to work. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sara saw Snowball back in his cage. | <input type="checkbox"/> Snowball died. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sara spoke to the writer. | <input type="checkbox"/> The writer got home. |

B Label the sections of the story by writing the number next to the correct section.

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 Background | 3 End of the story |
| 2 Beginning of the story | 4 Conclusion or 'lesson' |

C Think of a story you want to tell. Make notes in the table.

Background:

Main events:

Beginning of the story:

Conclusion or 'lesson':

Over to You

- D Use your notes from Exercise C to write your story.

WRITING TUTOR

The funniest thing happened to me the other day!

This might sound unbelievable, but I promise it is true.

My most embarrassing experience was the time ...

DOWN TIME

A Match the current book titles to their original titles.

Do you know what these classic works of literature were almost called? Which title do you like better?

- | | |
|---|------------------------------|
| 1 The Great Gatsby, by F. Scott Fitzgerald | a) The Dead Un-Dead |
| 2 Gone with the Wind, by Margaret Mitchell | b) First Impressions |
| 3 Pride and Prejudice, by Jane Austen | c) All's Well that Ends Well |
| 4 Treasure Island, by Robert Louis Stevenson | d) Twilight |
| 5 Dracula, by Bram Stoker | e) On the Road to West Egg |
| 6 The Sound and the Fury, by William Faulkner | f) Something that Happened |
| 7 Of Mice and Men, by John Steinbeck | g) Tomorrow is Another Day |
| 8 War and Peace, by Leo Tolstoy | h) The Sea-Cook |

1 0 2 9 3 b 4 4 5 a 6 d 7 f 8 c



B Choose titles for these new (and imaginary!) works of literature.



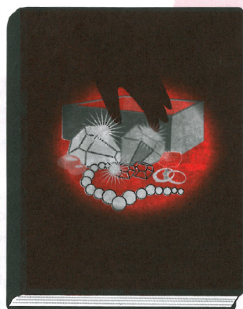
- 1 A time-travel romance

A computer software salesman travels back in time ... and meets a French princess!



- 2 An adventure story

The story of a man who was born a billionaire – and gave it all up to follow his dream.



- 3 A mystery

When Mr Williams opened his safe, the jewels were gone! But who could have taken them? And why?