1 Vocabulary

Read the sentences below and decide what the idioms in bold express. Do the people feel shocked, embarrassed or annoyed?

1. When I realised I had introduced my boss with a wrong name, I **went as red as a beetroot**.

2. Linda **couldn't believe her eyes** when she waved at the famous actor and he waved back.

3. My neighbour keeps throwing rubbish in my garden and it's **driving me up the wall**.

4. I didn't enter the competition because I knew I would **make a fool of myself**.

5. When the phone rang in the middle of the night, I **nearly jumped out of my skin**.

6. I fell flat on my face in the middle of the square. I **wanted the ground to open up and swallow me.**

2 Reading

A. Look at the pictures. What do you think happened? Listen, read and check your answers.

NOW, THAT'S EMBARRASSING!



So, there I was, sitting at the station waiting for my train. I was doing a crossword puzzle and wasn't really paying attention to what was going on around me. The train approached and when it stopped, I picked up my bag and quickly got on. Then I heard a woman shouting, 'Stop, thief!' I looked around and saw the woman get on the train and walk straight up to me.



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I couldn't believe my ears! She kept saying that I was a thief and that I had stolen her bag. That's when I realised I had my bag on my shoulder, and her bag in my hand. I apologised and told her that I hadn't done it on purpose, but I don't think she believed me. Luckily, she didn't call the police.

Linda Jameson

I was sitting on the bus the other day, and I hadn't noticed an old lady standing near me. Someone eventually gave up their seat and as she sat, she looked at me angrily. I felt really bad. A little later, a large lady got on the bus. She was carrying lots of shopping bags and I wanted to do something to help her. I offered her my seat and told her she shouldn't carry heavy bags in her condition. 'What do you mean?' she asked. I told her it wasn't good for the baby. 'What baby? You think I'm pregnant?' she replied and refused to sit in my seat. When I realised my mistake, I went as red as a beetroot.



Amy Winters



This happened during one of my lunch breaks from work. I was eating a sandwich in the park, and some kids were playing football nearby. They were kicking the ball in my direction and almost hit me a couple of times. I tried to ignore them but they were really driving me up the wall. I told them I wanted some peace and quiet, but they didn't go away. Finally, the ball hit me right on the head. I was furious. So, I took the ball and kicked it in the opposite direction. Unfortunately, it smashed into a shop window. It was a ridiculous reaction, I know. I just wanted the ground to open up and swallow me!

Henry Walker

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B. Read the texts again and write L for Linda, A for Amy or H for Henry for the statements below.

? **1.** I reacted without thinking. ☐

? **2.** I misunderstood a situation. ☐

? **3.** Someone said I had done something I hadn't. ☐

? **4.** I did something by accident. ☐ ☐

? **5.** I was angry with what had happened to me. ☐

? **6.** I was just trying to help someone out, but it didn't work out. ☐

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