

UNEXPECTED SITUATIONS

A Think about a time when something unexpected happened. It could be something that happened to you or someone you know. Use the list below to help think of a situation.

a sudden weather event	somebody changed their appearance
a surprise guest or party	somebody gets a job
an athlete or sports team loses/wins	somebody gets a lucky opportunity
how a business became successful	somebody wins/finds money
how a celebrity was discovered	somebody wins/loses a contest

Take notes on the unexpected situation. You will use these notes to tell the story in exercise B. How did people react to it? Use the words and phrases from the boxes to help you.

Verbs to talk about fame

catch sb's attention	do a/the broadcast	get hits
get publicity	have a good/bad reputation	have (never) heard of
make an appearance	make sth entertaining	make headlines
praise sb	raise awareness (of)	seek fame

Reporting verbs

announce	argue	boast	claim	confirm	deny
estimate	have doubts about	hope to	insist	propose	

Narrative tenses

interpreted	had been	hadn't been seeking	were working
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Modals for reported speech

could/couldn't	might	would/wouldn't
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B Work in groups. Tell your story of an unexpected situation to your group. Try to make the story interesting by varying sentence length, your tone, and gestures.

Our high school soccer team hadn't been playing well all season. In fact, we'd lost nine of the ten games we had played. And our last game was against a team we'd never beaten before. No one thought we could win. To make things worse, our center player hurt his ankle and couldn't play. Our coach put in a new player. He was only a freshman; we had never heard of him.

Our team played the game and the new freshman player was amazing! He scored three goals and we ended up winning! No one could have predicted that we would beat that team. It caught the attention of a sports reporter and made headlines in the local newspaper.