

1 Read the tips for writing a story. Tick the useful advice.

- 1 Set the scene by introducing who is in the story and where they are. ☒
- 2 Include at least three main characters. ☐
- 3 Use different past tenses and structures in the story. ☐
- 4 Use adjectives, adverbs and phrases to make the story interesting. ☐
- 5 Use linkers and time expressions to show the order of events. ☐
- 6 Try not to repeat the same words. ☐
- 7 Write a happy ending. ☐
- 8 Write four paragraphs. ☐

2 Match suitable parts of useful phrases for writing a story. There are two extra endings.

It was four years

- 1 What a
- 2 I'll never
- 3 It was a few
- 4 It was a lovely day
- 5 What
- 6 Meeting my husband was

- a years later when ...
- b in trouble
- c a surprise!
- d nightmare!
- e forget ...
- f going on?
- g for a walk ...
- h an event I'll never forget.
- i ago when ...

3 Read the story *Hitting the Jackpot* below. Complete gaps 1–3 with a suitable phrase from Exercise 2.

4 Read the story again. Choose the correct words.

- 5 Read the story *Lost in New York* below. Cross out one incorrect word in each underlined sentence a–g. Then write the correct word.
- 6 Complete the story with the correct form of the verbs in brackets.

BLOG

Lost in New York



when

I was 14 years old while I got lost in New York.

I was (be) on a school trip and on the last day we went to a museum before our flight home. We ¹ _____ (travel) by city bus when I ² _____ (begin) to feel sleepy.

^aAll of the sudden, someone ³ _____ (start) shaking me. I was the only person left on the bus.

^bWhat was going up? I slowly realised I was lost.

^cI have to saying I was scared. I ⁴ _____ (not/have) any money and my phone was dying.

^dI was by trouble.

While I ⁵ _____ (think) what to do, I ⁶ _____ (see) a woman. She was wearing a pilot's uniform.

^eLucky, she helped me. ^fShe was incredible kind and told me how to get to the airport and even gave me ten dollars for the ticket.

When I finally ⁷ _____ (get) on the plane, the pilot ⁸ _____ (make) an announcement.

I recognised her voice immediately. It was the woman from the bus. She ⁹ _____ (invite) me to the front of the plane and ¹⁰ _____ (explain) how everything worked. ^gI'll always forget the day I travelled with the pilot.

Hitting the JACKPOT*



It was four years ago when my luck started to change. I was walking home from work when a man rushed out of a newsagent's and jumped on a bus. ^a*Unfortunately / Incredibly*, a small piece of paper fell from his pocket.

It was a lottery ticket. I put it in my bag and forgot all about it until a few weeks later when I found it again in my handbag. I checked the ticket. ¹ _____ It wasn't the winning ticket, but it won a small amount of money.

^b*Anyhow / I must admit* I thought about taking the money, but I decided to keep the ticket for good luck instead.

^c*Actually / While*, my luck did change after that.

² _____ I met my husband, Paul. On our wedding day, he said he felt like the luckiest man alive. At that moment, I decided to tell him the story of my lottery ticket to show him I was lucky too. ^d*Then / Unfortunately* Paul started to laugh. ³ _____ the next thing he told me. He used to play the lottery and the numbers on the ticket were his lucky numbers. ^e*During / Suddenly* I knew who he was. It was Paul who dropped the ticket. I couldn't believe it! We weren't rich, but we were very happy ^f*anyway / luckily*.

* Hit the Jackpot – to be very successful or lucky

