12A Unbelievable!

Why was she so angry?

Because her husband had left her behind.

G past perfect | V time expressions | P the letter *i*

1 READING & VOCABULARY time expressions

a Look at the pictures and the headlines for three news stories. What do you think the stories are about?

b Read the stories and check. Match them to the headlines.







1 LEFT BEHIND

Last Sunday at about 2.00 a.m., police in Sydney, Australia, received several phone calls about shouting and loud noises that were coming from an apartment in a suburb of the city. The callers had heard a woman screaming, a man shouting 'I'm going to kill you! You're dead!', and somebody throwing furniture.

A police car went to the apartment immediately. A man opened the door.

'Where's your wife?' the officer asked.

'I don't have one,' the man replied.

'Where's your girlfriend?'

'I don't have one,' the man replied again.

The officer told the man that his neighbours had heard shouting and screaming.

'Come on, what have you done to her?' the officer asked.

'It was a spider,' the man replied. 'A really big one.'

'What about the woman who was screaming?'

'Yes, sorry, that was me,' the man said. 'I really, really hate spiders. I was trying to kill it.'

The police looked around the apartment and confirmed that nobody was hurt. Except the spider.

2 FALSE ALARM

A woman in Worthing, West Sussex, got a big surprise yesterday when she opened a large box of DVDs that she had bought on eBay and a cat suddenly jumped out. The cat, called Cupcake, had got into the box eight days earlier, when her owner Julie Baggott was packing the box to send to her customer. Julie didn't notice that Cupcake had climbed into the box and fallen asleep.

Julie's customer called the RSPCA, who collected the cat and took it to a vet. Dr Ben Colwell, who treated Cupcake, said that she was very frightened and very thirsty – the cat had survived the 260-mile journey with no food or water. Luckily Cupcake had a microchip in her neck, so the vet found Julie's details and phoned her.

Julie had been very sad about losing her cat. She had put up posters and looked for Cupcake for days. 'I feel terrible,' said Julie. 'I put the DVDs in the box and I closed it straight away, so I don't know how she got in there. It was a miracle she was alive.'

3 IN THE POST

An Argentinian family was driving home after a holiday in Brazil when the husband, Walter, made an unfortunate mistake. He stopped at a petrol station, filled up the car with petrol, and went to the toilet. But when he drove off, he didn't notice that his wife Claudia wasn't in the car.

Claudia had been asleep in the back seat. While her husband was in the toilet, she woke up and went into the shop to buy some cookies, but when she came back outside she found that her husband had left without her. The couple's 14-year-old son didn't notice that his mother wasn't there because he was playing on his phone in the front seat.

Walter only realized his wife wasn't in the car after he'd driven 100 kilometres. Meanwhile, Claudia tried to phone him, but she couldn't get a signal, so she asked the petrol station manager for help. He contacted the local police, who took her to the police station.

Her husband eventually returned to pick her up two hours later. When he arrived, Claudia was so angry that all she could do was scream and kick the car.

Glossary
RSPCA Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals

Adapted from the British press

LIVEWORKSHEETS

c Read the stories again. For each story, put the events in the order that they happened.

Story 1
- The police arrived at the apartment.
- 1 The neighbours heard someone screaming.
- The man explained what had happened.
- The man killed the spider.

Story 2
- Julie put up posters.
- Julie lost her cat.
- The vet contacted Julie.
- The cat jumped out of the box.

Story 3
- Walter got back into the car and drove off.
- Walter realized what had happened.
- Claudia went into the shop.
- Walter went to the toilet.

d Look back at the stories and complete the sentences with time expressions.

1 A police car went to the apartment _____.
2 A cat _____ jumped out.
3 I put the DVDs in the box and I closed it _____.
4 _____, Claudia tried to phone him.
5 Her husband _____ returned two hours later.

e Match the time expressions in **d** to their meaning.

1 quickly and unexpectedly _____
2 after a long time _____
3 while something else was happening _____
4 without delay _____

2 GRAMMAR past perfect

a Look at a sentence from one of the stories. Which action happened first? Number the sentences 1 and 2.

Walter only realized his wife wasn't in the car after he'd driven 100 kilometres.

- Walter realized his wife wasn't in the car.
- Walter drove 100 kilometres.

b What do you think *'d* is a contraction of? What form of the verb is *driven*?

c Underline two more examples of the past perfect in each story.

d **G p.148 Grammar Bank 12A**

e Complete the sentences in your own words. Use the past perfect.

1 When I got to the airport I suddenly realized that...
2 When we arrived back from our holiday we found that...
3 When the film started I immediately realized that...
4 I couldn't answer any of the exam questions because I...
5 We spent 20 minutes in the car park looking for the car because we couldn't remember...

f Compare with a partner. Are your sentences the same or different?

g **C Communication** What had happened? **A p.106 B p.112**
Try to guess your partner's sentences.

3 PRONUNCIATION the letter *i*

The letter *i*
The letter *i* is usually pronounced /aɪ/ before a consonant + e, e.g. *drive* and is pronounced /ɪ/ between two consonants if there is no e, e.g. *mistake*.

a Put the words from the stories in the correct row.

alive arrive driven kill miracle notice outside signal spider surprise survive while wife

fish		bike	

b 12.2 Listen and check. Practise saying the words. Which two words in the /ɪ/ column don't follow the rules?

4 SPEAKING

a Look at the pictures from two more newspaper stories. What do you think the stories are about?





b **C Communication** Two more stories **A p.107 B p.112**
Read your story and tell it to your partner.

c Which of the stories in this lesson do you find the most unbelievable? Have there been any funny or unusual stories in the news recently? What happened?

LIVEWORKSHEETS