

- 2 A** Read the blog post again. Put the pictures in the correct order from 1–6.
B Cover the blog. Look at the pictures and retell the story in pairs.

 Skill making a narrative interesting

When writing a narrative, make the story more interesting by:

- describing people, places, and the events
- describing emotions and feelings
- including one or two comments about the events.

- 3** Read the Skill box. Match the underlined phrases (1–7) in the blog post with the three features of a narrative (a–c).

- a descriptions of people, places, and events: _____
 b descriptions of emotions and feelings: _____
 c comments about the events: _____

- 4 A** Choose the correct words to complete the sentences.

comfortable surprised nightmare luckily tall disappointed

- 1 I thought Sue was on vacation, so I was _____ to see her at work.
 2 _____, I had another pair of glasses in my bag.
 3 She was _____, blonde, and wearing a beautiful green dress.
 4 When they told me I'd failed the exam, I felt really _____.
 5 The hotel room was small, but it was very _____.
 6 The train had already left, and I had lost my ticket. What a _____!

- B** Which of the features a–c in exercise 3 does each sentence in 4A use?

 Text builder time linkers

We use time linkers like *before*, *after*, *until*, and *as soon as* to make the order of two past actions clear:

Just before I left my house, I got a text message. *Everything was going fine until* my car stopped suddenly.

After waiting for ten minutes, I finally got a cab. *As soon as* I got home, I started charging my phone.

Look! After *before* and *after*, we can use a verb + *-ing* or a subject and verb. After *until* and *as soon as*, we can only use a subject and verb:

As soon as I arrived, I went to bed. NOT *As soon as arriving*, I went to bed.

- 5 A** Read the Text builder. In each of the four example sentences, which action happened first? Discuss in pairs.

- B** Complete the sentences with the correct time linker.

- 1 It was raining, so I waited in my car *until* / *as soon as* my sister's train arrived.
 2 *Before* / *After* she got off the train, she checked that she had all of her things.
 3 They sent their parents a text *until* / *as soon as* their plane landed in Buenos Aires.
 4 *After* / *Until* he closed the door, he realized that he had left his keys inside the apartment.
 5 *Before* / *As soon as* I got home, I started to cook dinner.
 6 *As soon as* / *After* driving him home, she went to get some gas.

- 6 A** **PREPARE** Think about something amazing, surprising, frustrating, or terrifying that happened to you. Make notes about the main events and any descriptions or comments you want to include to make your story more interesting.

- B** **PRACTICE** Write a blog post, using your notes to help you. Include different narrative tenses and time linkers.

- C** **PERSONAL BEST** Exchange your blog post with your partner. Read his/her work and correct any mistakes. How could you improve it? What do you like best about his/her story?