

4 What happened?

- Describe past events
- Tell stories

1 SNAPSHOT

NEWS
Several Streets Closed After "Suspicious Package" Was Found



HEALTH
Why Weight Loss Isn't the Same as Being Healthy





TRENDING TOPICS
The Earth Is Getting Warmer and the Signs Are Everywhere



ARTS
The Top-Rated TV Shows You Need to Be Watching Right Now

SCIENCE
Women Need More Sleep Than Men Because They Use More of Their Brains



TECH
Here Are the Five Must-Have Apps for Runners



Which story would you like to read? Why?
What types of stories do you usually read online?
Where do you get your news? What's happening in the news today?

2 PERSPECTIVES Listen up.

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A Listen to what people are listening to on their way to work. Which stories from Exercise 1 are they related to?

Hey, I just downloaded this incredible app. I used it this morning and I think you're going to love it. While I was working out, it calculated exactly how many calories I burned. The bad thing is, it tells me I still need to run about 4 miles to burn off last night's dinner.

As scientists were doing some research on the effects of sleep deprivation, they discovered that women need about 20 more minutes of sleep a night than men do. They think the reason is that women tend to do several tasks at once, which makes their brains work harder.

Hi, Jeff. We're canceling our meeting in the downtown office this morning. We just learned that the police have closed all the streets in the area. It seems that a man was looking for his lost cat when he found a suspicious package inside a trash can. In the end, it was just an old box of chocolates.

B Which is a message from a co-worker? a message from a friend? a podcast?

LIVEWORKSHEETS

3 GRAMMAR FOCUS

Past continuous vs. simple past

Use the past continuous for an ongoing action in the past.
Use the simple past for an event that interrupts that action.

Past continuous	*Simple past*
While I **was working** out,	it **calculated** how many calories I burned.
As scientists **were doing** research,	they **discovered** that women need more sleep than men.
A man **was looking** for his cat	when he **found** a suspicious package inside a trash can.

GRAMMAR PLUS *see page 135*

A Complete the stories using the past continuous or simple past forms of the verbs. Then compare with a partner.

1. **Bad memory, bad luck:** Marcia Murphy _____ (donate) her old pants to a thrift shop. As she _____ (walk) home, she _____ (remember) she _____ (leave) $20 in her pants pocket.
2. **Good intentions, bad interpretation:** Jason Clark _____ (walk) home one day, when he _____ (see) a little puppy crying on the sidewalk, so he _____ (stop) to help. As he _____ (pick) him up, a woman _____ (come) from nowhere screaming: "Stop that guy. He's trying to steal my puppy." Jason _____ (end) up spending three hours at the police station.
3. **A bad ride, a bad fall:** On her birthday last year, Diane Larson _____ (drive) to work when she _____ (have) a bad accident. This year, just to be safe, she decided to stay home on her birthday. Unfortunately, that night while she _____ (sleep) in her apartment, the floor of her living room _____ (collapse) and she _____ (fall) into her neighbor's apartment.



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B **GROUP WORK** Take turns retelling the stories in part A. Add your own ideas and details to make the stories more interesting!

4 PRONUNCIATION Intonation in complex sentences

A Listen and practice. Notice how each clause in a complex sentence has its own intonation pattern.

As Marcia was walking home, she remembered she left $20 in her pants pocket.
A man was looking for his cat when he found a package.

B **PAIR WORK** Use your imagination to make complex sentences. Take turns starting and finishing the sentences. Pay attention to intonation.

A: As Lee was coming to school today . . .
B: . . . he saw a parade coming down the street.

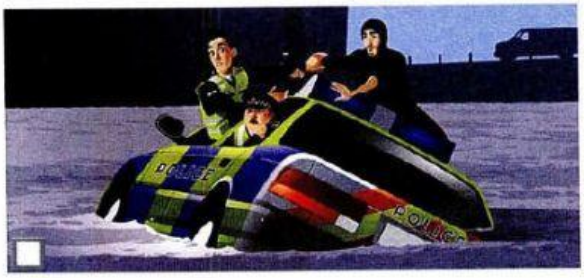
LIVEWORKSHEETS

5 LISTENING Crazy but true!

A Listen to three news stories. Number the pictures from 1 to 3. (There is one extra picture.)









B Listen again. Take notes on each story.

	Where did it happen?	When did it happen?	What happened?
1.			
2.			
3.			

6 WRITING A personal account

A Think of a story that happened to you or to someone you know. Choose one of the titles below, or create your own.

A Scary Experience
I'll Never Forget That Day
I Was Really Lucky
I Can't Believe It Happened

B Write your story. First, answer these questions.

Who was involved?
Where did it happen?
When did it happen?
What happened?

I Was Really Lucky

Last year, I took a trip to see my grandparents. I was waiting in the airport for my flight when a storm hit, and all the flights were cancelled. Luckily, I . . .

C **GROUP WORK** Take turns telling your stories. Other students ask questions. Who has the best story?

LIVEWORKSHEETS

7 CONVERSATION That's terrible!

A Listen and practice.



CAROL Guess what? Someone stole my new bike yesterday!



MILO Oh, no! What happened?



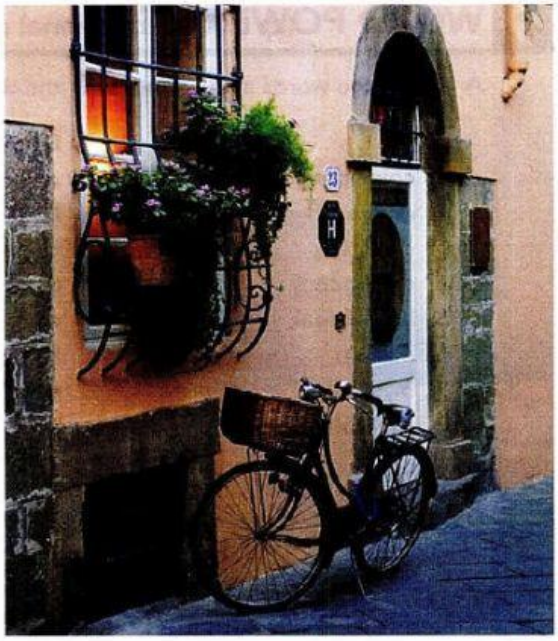
CAROL Well, I was having lunch with a friend, and I had parked it on the street, just like I always do. When I came back, someone had stolen it. I guess I'd forgotten to lock it up.



MILO That's terrible! Did you report the theft to the police?



CAROL Yes, I did. And I also listed it on that site for stolen and lost bikes. But I doubt I'll ever get it back.



B Listen to the rest of the conversation. What did Milo have stolen once? Where was he?

8 GRAMMAR FOCUS

Past perfect

Use the past perfect for an event that occurred before another event in the past.

Past event	Past perfect event
I **was having** lunch with a friend,	and I **had parked** my bike on the street.
When I **came back,**	someone **had stolen** it.
They **were able** to steal it	because I **had forgotten** to lock it up.

GRAMMAR PLUS *see page 135*

A Write the correct verbs to complete the sentences. Then compare with a partner.

1. I _____ (took/had taken) a trip to London last year. I was a bit scared because I _____ (didn't travel/hadn't traveled) abroad before, but everything was perfect.
2. I _____ (visited/was visiting) the British Museum one afternoon when I _____ (ran/had run) into an old school friend who I _____ (didn't see/hadn't seen) for over 10 years.
3. One weekend, we _____ (were driving/had driven) to Liverpool when we _____ (ran/were running) out of gas on the highway because we _____ (forgot/had forgotten) to fill up the tank before leaving. Fortunately, a truck driver _____ (stopped/had stopped) and _____ (helped/had helped) us.
4. On the last day, as I _____ (was going/had gone) up to my hotel room, I _____ (got/had gotten) stuck in the elevator. After I _____ (was/had been) stuck for an hour, someone _____ (started/had started) it again.

B **PAIR WORK** Complete the sentences with your own ideas.

Until last year, I had never . . .

One day, as I was . . .

LIVEWORKSHEETS

9 WORD POWER Exceptional events

A Match the words in column A with the definitions in column B.

A	B
1. coincidence _____	a. an unexpected event that brings good fortune
2. dilemma _____	b. a situation that involves a difficult choice
3. disaster _____	c. something puzzling or unexplained
4. emergency _____	d. an event that causes suffering or destruction
5. lucky break _____	e. a great success or achievement
6. mishap _____	f. an accident, mistake, or unlucky event
7. mystery _____	g. a sudden, dangerous situation that requires quick action
8. triumph _____	h. a situation when two similar things happen at the same time for no reason

B PAIR WORK Choose one kind of event from part A. Write a situation for it.

A man bought an old house for $10,000. As he was cleaning the attic of his new home, he found an old painting by a famous painter. He had never collected art, but when he took it to a museum, he found out it was worth almost one million dollars. (lucky break)

C GROUP WORK Read your situation. Can others guess which kind of event it describes?

10 SPEAKING It's a story about . . .

GROUP WORK Have you ever experienced the events in Exercise 9, part A? Tell your group about it. Answer any questions.

A: It's a story about a coincidence.
B: What happened?
A: My sister bought a new dress for her graduation party. She had saved for months to buy it. When she got to the party, another girl was wearing the exact same dress!
C: Wow! That's more than a coincidence. It's a disaster! And what did she do?



11 INTERCHANGE 4 Spin a yarn

Tell a story. Go to Interchange 4 on page 117.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

12 READING

A Skim the article. Was the story about lice true or false?

Menu | Articles | Community | Search | Sign in / Sign up

Believing More Than We Should

Is everything you read on the Internet true? If your answer is "no," you are absolutely right. Many stories and even photos are not to be trusted. And don't believe that because a good friend or a well-known news source has posted something that it is necessarily trustworthy.

There are many reasons for the spread of inaccurate content on the Internet. One reason is that satirical websites can create very believable stories, which they invent in order to make a point or to make people laugh. Other reasons might be an attempt to gain more readers, a desire to damage someone's reputation, or simple curiosity about how far a fake story can spread.

One story that spread throughout the media before anyone had checked the facts involved teenagers, selfies, and head lice. The article claimed that when teenagers were posing together for selfies, their heads often touched and the tiny insects were jumping from head to head. The article went on to say that this was causing a massive outbreak of lice. Some major websites and news outlets picked up the story, not even bothering to consult the experts. It turned out that some entrepreneurs who were marketing a new treatment for head lice had made up the story and posted it. Their motivation was to get attention and more business.

The spread of this story is understandable. It involved one epidemic (selfies) causing another (lice), and the "ick" factor was irresistible. Because there is so much false information online, there are now websites, such as *Snopes* and *Factcheck*, which exist specifically to find out if stories are true or not. So the next time you see a story that sounds too good to be true, at least you have somewhere to turn for verification before you spread false information to all your friends.



B Read the article. Find the words in italics in the article. Then check (✓) the meaning of each word.

1. *inaccurate*	☐ not exact or true	☐ shocking or disgusting
2. *satirical*	☐ humorously critical	☐ completely factual
3. *reputation*	☐ hurtful news about someone	☐ public opinion of someone
4. *massive*	☐ small	☐ very large
5. *irresistible*	☐ hard to prove	☐ hard to fight against
6. *verification*	☐ proof of truth	☐ another opinion

C **PAIR WORK** Discuss these questions.

Do you think you would have believed the story about selfies and head lice?
Do you think the creation of the story was justified or not?
Who do you think is most responsible for the story being so popular?
Do you think there should be a penalty for spreading false information? If so, what should it be?

D **GROUP WORK** Have you ever read a story that turned out to be false? How did you find out the truth?

LIVEWORKSHEETS