

# READING and VOCABULARY

**1** Read two "incredible but true" stories. In both stories, a sentence is missing. Match sentences **a** and **b** with a story, then put the sentence in the appropriate position: **1**, **2**, or **3**.

- a** Paul had planned to take another flight, but the airline canceled it, so he took this flight.
- b** Especially as Lucy's parents had decided on a different hospital, but Lucy came a little early and there had been no time to get there.

**A- Is this seat taken?** **1** **2** **3**

**B- It's our birthday** **1** **2** **3**

## A - Is this seat taken?



Paul Davis and Stan James started talking. They were sitting next to each other on a flight to London from Auckland. Paul was going home; Stan was going on holiday. The flight attendant thought they were brothers as they looked alike. (1) They were both tall, with brown eyes, and long bushy beards. They all laughed at the mistake. But as they chatted about their childhood it became clear that they didn't just look like brothers – they could actually be brothers. They were both adopted, and were never able to find their older/younger brother. What an incredible coincidence! Stan had changed his seat because of a family who wanted to sit together. (2) A DNA test a month or so later proved it. (3) The brothers had found each other. Stan now goes on holiday to New Zealand every year – to visit his family!

## B - It's our birthday



After Lucy and Stevie met they decided to have a first date in a local restaurant. They were the same age, had some of the same interests, and lived quite close to each other. The date went well, so Stevie asked her if she wanted to go out the following Friday. (1) It was his birthday, but he had nothing planned. Then she said she couldn't because it was her birthday on Friday as well! As they talked, they also realized they were born in the same hospital at about the same time. Incredible! (2) They saw it as fate. (3) They were married last year, and are expecting their first child.

**2** Are the following statements true or false?

- a** Paul and Stan were friends traveling together. **False**
- b** The flight attendant thought they were brothers.
- c** Stan had changed his seat.
- d** Lucy and Stevie went on a date.
- e** Lucy and Steve were born in different hospitals.
- f** They are going to have a baby.

**3** Look at the collocations with HAVE, MAKE, and TAKE in the stories. Then complete these statements with collocations from the box.

have a good time have dinner make a promise make money take pictures

- a** I have dinner at eight o'clock every night.
- b** The press shouldn't take pictures of famous people without their permission.
- c** The only reason to get a job is to make money.
- d** You should never make a promise if you can't keep it.
- e** We always have a good time when we visit our friends in New York.