

## UNEXPECTED SITUATIONS

**A** Think about a time when something unexpected happened. It could be something that happened to you or someone you know. Use the list below to help think of a situation.

- |                                      |                                   |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| a sudden weather event               | somebody changed their appearance |
| a surprise guest or party            | somebody gets a job               |
| an athlete or sports team loses/wins | somebody gets a lucky opportunity |
| how a business became successful     | somebody wins/finds money         |
| how a celebrity was discovered       | somebody wins/loses a contest     |

Take notes on the unexpected situation. You will use these notes to tell the story in exercise B. How did people react to it? Use the words and phrases from the boxes to help you.

### Verbs to talk about fame

- |                      |                            |                       |
|----------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| catch sb's attention | do a/the broadcast         | get hits              |
| get publicity        | have a good/bad reputation | have (never) heard of |
| make an appearance   | make sth entertaining      | make headlines        |
| praise sb            | raise awareness (of)       | seek fame             |

### Reporting verbs

- |          |                   |         |        |         |      |
|----------|-------------------|---------|--------|---------|------|
| announce | argue             | boast   | claim  | confirm | deny |
| estimate | have doubts about | hope to | insist | propose |      |

### Narrative tenses

- |             |          |                     |              |
|-------------|----------|---------------------|--------------|
| interpreted | had been | hadn't been seeking | were working |
|-------------|----------|---------------------|--------------|

### Modals for reported speech

- |                |       |                |
|----------------|-------|----------------|
| could/couldn't | might | would/wouldn't |
|----------------|-------|----------------|

**B** Work in groups. Tell your story of an unexpected situation to your group. Try to make the story interesting by varying sentence length, your tone, and gestures.

Our high school soccer team hadn't been playing well all season. In fact, we'd lost nine of the ten games we had played. And our last game was against a team we'd never beaten before. No one thought we could win. To make things worse, our center player hurt his ankle and couldn't play. Our coach put in a new player. He was only a freshman; we had never heard of him.

Our team played the game and the new freshman player was amazing! He scored three goals and we ended up winning! No one could have predicted that we would beat that team. It caught the attention of a sports reporter and made headlines in the local newspaper.