1. Put the sections in the right order to make a logical story.

A As soon as he told his son, they hugged each other and went for a coffee to talk. Barry had lost contact with his family while he was working abroad.

B After a while, the woman happened to notice Barry's identity card, hanging up in the cab. 'Isn't that funny,' she said to her boyfriend, 'you've got the same name as the taxi driver.'

C The man then said, jokingly, 'Is your first name Barry?' In an instant, the taxi driver's mouth went dry. He waited until there was somewhere safe to park, pulled the car over and said, 'Yes.' The taxi driver had realized that the man in the back of his cab was his son, who he had not seen for thirty-four years.

D Colin said, 'I didn't recognize him at all, but it is great to have my dad back.'

1 E A few years ago, a taxi driver called Barry Bagshaw had a life-changing experience when he went to work one day.

F It seemed like any other day. Barry picked up a man and his girlfriend from a hotel in the seaside town where he lived.

G By an amazing coincidence, it turned out that his son, Colin, who had been living in South Africa, had recently arrived to take up a new job in the same small town where his father lived.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

2. Complete the story with words from the box.

~~ago~~ end instant just soon straightaway while

A few years [1] ago, Dorothy Fletcher was flying to Florida for her daughter's wedding. She was enjoying the flight, but after a [2] _____, when they were over the ocean, she started to feel unwell. Soon afterwards, she had a heart attack.

The flight attendant asked [3] _____ on the speaker system if there was a doctor on board, and, in an [4] _____, fifteen doctors got up and went to help her! They were travelling to a medical conference in Orlando.

They started treating her with the medical kit in the plane, and, at one point, one of the doctors said: 'I think we're losing her.' But [5] _____ then another doctor found her pulse again.

She was taken straight to hospital as [6] _____ as the plane landed. She then spent a few days in hospital, but in the [7] _____, she still managed to go to her daughter's wedding!

3. Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first, using a time expression from the Language for writing box. There is one expression you do not need.

1 As soon as he heard the news, he rang her.
When he heard the news, he _____.

2 Not long ago he had changed his job.
He had changed his job _____.

3 At that moment, the car suddenly stopped.
_____, the car suddenly stopped.

4 Finally, he went back to Australia.
_____, he went back to Australia.

5 Within seconds, everything had changed.
_____, everything had changed.

6 A short time later, he picked up his bag and left.
_____, he picked up his bag and left.

LIVEWORKSHEETS