12 What happened?

1 SNAPSHOT

Aha! *Where did the ideas for these "accidental inventions" come from?*



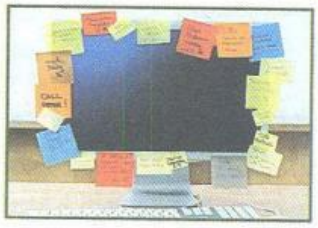
The Popsicle

In 1905, 11-year-old Frank Epperson wanted to make a new soft drink. He mixed the ingredients with a stick, but he left the soda outside overnight. The next morning, he found it frozen with the stick inside.



Velcro

In 1948 George de Mestral went for a walk and noticed small seeds stuck to his clothes. He examined them under a microscope and found hundreds of small hooks that stuck to almost anything.



Post-it Notes

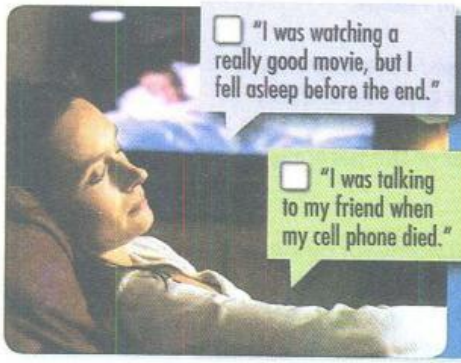
In 1970 Spencer Silver tried to invent a new glue, but it was very weak. No one wanted to use it. Four years later, his co-worker Arthur Fry put the glue on bookmarks to keep them in place.

Sources: http://inventors.about.com

Which of these accidental inventions do you think is the most interesting? the most useful? Do you know of any other things that were invented accidentally?

2 PERSPECTIVES *It happened to me!*

A Listen to what happened to these people. Check (✓) the things that have happened to you.



- ☐ "I was watching a really good movie, but I fell asleep before the end."
- ☐ "I was talking to my friend when my cell phone died."
- ☐ "I was traveling in another country when I met an old school friend."
- ☐ "I was getting off a bus when I slipped and fell on the sidewalk."
- ☐ "While I was shopping one day, a celebrity walked into the store."
- ☐ "I was typing my book report on my computer when it crashed."
- ☐ "While I was walking down the street, I found some money."

B Choose one statement that you checked. What happened next?

"I recharged my cell phone and called my friend back."

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LIVEWORKSHEETS

3 GRAMMAR FOCUS

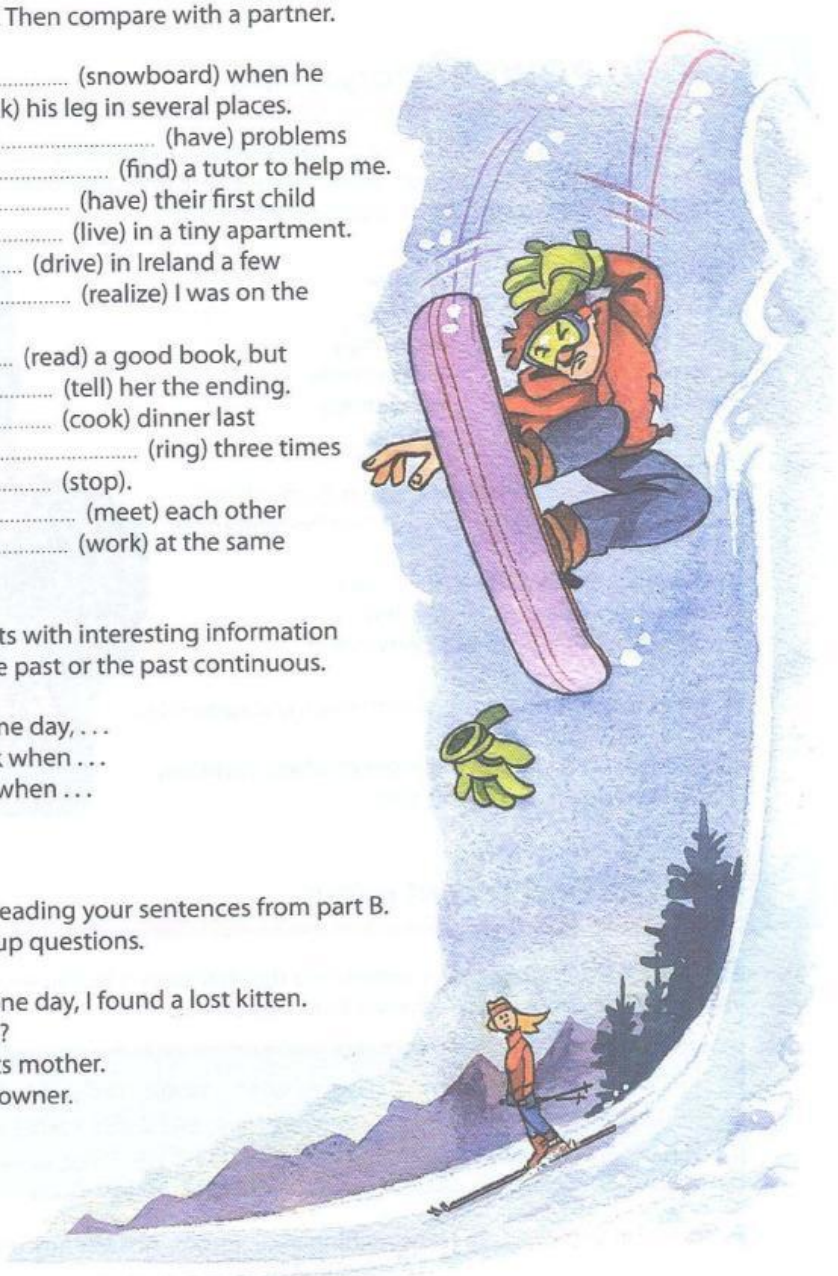
Past continuous vs. simple past

Use the past continuous for an action in progress in the past.
Use the simple past for an action that interrupts it.

I **was watching** a good movie, but I **fell** asleep before the end.
I **was talking** to my friend when my cell phone **died**.
While I **was shopping** one day, a celebrity **walked** into the store.

A Complete these sentences. Then compare with a partner.

1. My brother ..... (snowboard) when he ..... (break) his leg in several places.
2. Several years ago, I ..... (have) problems with math, so I ..... (find) a tutor to help me.
3. The couple ..... (have) their first child while they ..... (live) in a tiny apartment.
4. While I ..... (drive) in Ireland a few years ago, I ..... (realize) I was on the wrong side of the road!
5. Ulrike ..... (read) a good book, but someone ..... (tell) her the ending.
6. While we ..... (cook) dinner last night, the phone ..... (ring) three times and then ..... (stop).
7. My parents ..... (meet) each other while they ..... (work) at the same restaurant in Vancouver.



B Complete these statements with interesting information about yourself. Use the simple past or the past continuous.

1. While I was going home one day, . . .
2. I was doing my homework when . . .
3. I was talking to my friend when . . .
4. Last month, . . .
5. Two years ago, . . .

C **PAIR WORK** Take turns reading your sentences from part B. Then ask and answer follow-up questions.

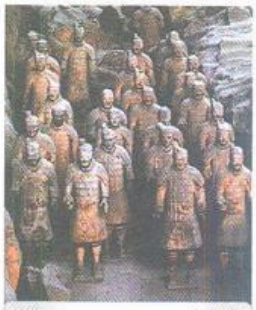
A: While I was going home one day, I found a lost kitten.
B: Oh, no! What was it doing?
A: I think it was looking for its mother. It had a tag, so I called its owner.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

4 LISTENING *Lucky breaks*

A Listen to these stories about lucky breaks. What were the people doing before they got their lucky breaks? What were their lucky breaks?

	What they were doing	Lucky break
1. Yang Zhifa	.....	.....
2. Gwyneth Paltrow	.....	.....



Terracotta warriors

B Listen again. How did the events change their lives?

5 WORD POWER *Storytelling*

A Some adverbs are often used in storytelling to emphasize that something interesting is about to happen. Which of these adverbs are positive (**P**)? Which are negative (**N**)? Which could be either (**E**)?

coincidentally	.....	strangely	.....
fortunately	.....	suddenly	.....
luckily	.....	surprisingly	.....
miraculously	.....	unexpectedly	.....
sadly	.....	unfortunately	.....



B **PAIR WORK** Complete these statements with adverbs from part A to make up creative sentences.

I was walking down the street when, . . .
It started out as a normal day, but, . . .
We were on our way to the party when, . . .

A: I was walking down the street when, unexpectedly, I saw a celebrity!
B: Or, I was walking down the street when, suddenly, I looked down and found $20!

6 WRITING *A recent event*

A Write a short story about something that happened to you recently. Try to include some of the adverbs from Exercise 5.

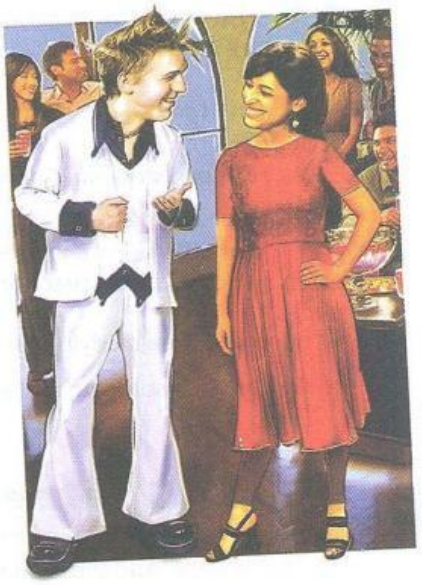
> I was visiting the coast last year when, unexpectedly, I got a chance to go kayaking. Fortunately, it was a perfect day, and I was having a great time. The water was calm, and I was beginning to feel a little tired when, suddenly, . . .

B **GROUP WORK** Take turns reading your stories. Answer any questions from the group.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

7 CONVERSATION *What have you been doing?*

A Listen and practice.



Pete: Hey, Gina! I haven't seen you in ages. What have you been doing lately?
Gina: Nothing exciting. I've been working two jobs for the last six months.
Pete: How come?
Gina: I'm saving up money for a trip to Morocco.
Pete: Well, that's exciting.
Gina: Yeah, it is. What about you?
Pete: Well, I've only been *spending* money. I'm pursuing a full-time modeling career.
Gina: Really? How long have you been modeling?
Pete: Since I graduated. But I haven't been getting any work lately. I need a job soon. I'm almost out of money!

B Listen to two other people at the party. What has happened since they last saw each other?

8 GRAMMAR FOCUS

Present perfect continuous

Use the present perfect continuous for actions that start in the past and continue into the present.

What **have** you **been doing** lately? — I'**ve been working** two jobs for the last six months.
How long **have** you **been modeling**? — I'**ve been modeling** since I graduated.
Have you **been saving** money? — No, I **haven't been saving** money. I'**ve been spending** it!

A Complete the conversations with the present perfect continuous.

1. A: What ..... you ..... (do) lately?
   B: Well, I ..... (spend) my free time at the beach.
2. A: ..... you ..... (work) part-time this year?
   B: Yes, I have. I ..... (make) sandwiches at the Lunch Time Café for the past few months.
3. A: How ..... you ..... (feel) recently?
   B: Great! I ..... (get) a lot of sleep. And I ..... (not drink) as much coffee since I stopped working at the coffee shop.
4. A: ..... you ..... (get) enough exercise lately?
   B: No, I haven't. I ..... (study) a lot for a big exam.

B **PAIR WORK** Read the conversations in part A together. Then read them again and answer the questions with your own information.

A: What have you been doing lately?
B: I've been listening to a lot of classical music. It helps me study.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

9 PRONUNCIATION *Contrastive stress in responses*

A Listen and practice. Notice how the stress changes to emphasize a contrast.

A: Has your brother been studying German?
B: No, I've been studying German.

A: Have you been teaching French?
B: No, I've been studying French.

B Mark the stress changes in these conversations. Listen and check. Then practice the conversations.

A: Have you been studying for ten years?
B: No, I've been studying for two years.

A: Have you been studying at school?
B: No, I've been studying at home.

10 SPEAKING *Tell me about it.*

GROUP WORK Add three questions to this list. Then take turns asking and answering the questions. Remember to ask for further information.

Have you been . . . lately?

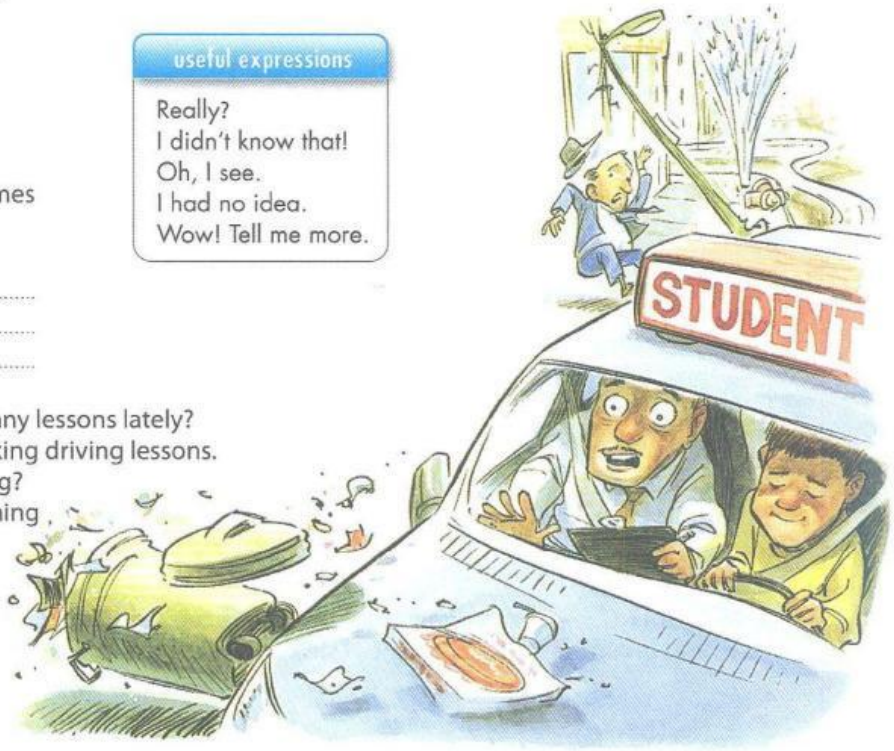
taking any lessons
working out
learning a new hobby
working long hours
reading any good books
playing any cool video games
traveling
staying up late

.....
.....
.....

useful expressions

Really?
I didn't know that!
Oh, I see.
I had no idea.
Wow! Tell me more.

A: Have you been taking any lessons lately?
B: Yes, I have. I've been taking driving lessons.
C: Really? How's that going?
B: Great! I think I'm becoming an excellent driver.



11 INTERCHANGE 12 *Life is like a game!*

Play a board game. Go to Interchange 12 on page 126.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

12 READING

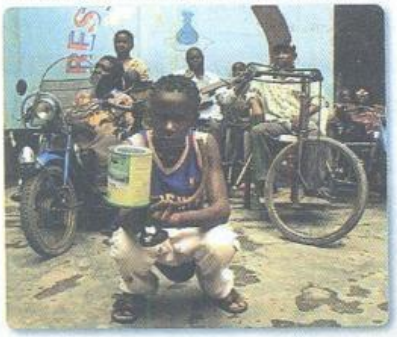
From the Streets to the Screen

Skim the article. What makes Staff Benda Bilili different from other groups of musicians?



Staff Benda Bilili is a group of musicians from Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). They live on the streets of the city. The four original group members are all disabled and move around on homemade tricycles. The group was founded by guitar players Papa Ricky Likabu and Coco Ngambali. Other musicians refused to play with them because they couldn't dance. Later, a street kid, Roger Landu, joined them. He made his own musical instrument from a fish can, a piece of wood, and one guitar string – nothing more.

The group's music is classic Congolese rumba mixed with reggae and rhythm 'n' blues. Their lyrics contain a message to street people and disabled people: Be very strong. Papa Ricky believes that the only real handicaps are in the mind, not the body. He says the group's main musical influences come from the street: "We sleep there, eat there, rehearse there." They also play there. Every evening, the group performs in front of an audience near Kinshasa Zoo.



In 2004, two French filmmakers were working in the DRC when, by chance, they heard Staff Benda Bilili's music. They loved it so much that they spent the next five years making a documentary film about the group. In 2009, Staff Benda Bilili's first CD was released. It's called *Très Très Fort*, which means "very very strong." The group won the WOMEX (World Music Expo) Artist Award. Then, in 2010, the documentary *Benda Bilili!* was screened at the Cannes Film Festival, and the group played on the opening night.

Staff Benda Bilili wants to use its worldwide success to raise awareness about the problems of street people in Kinshasa and around the world.

A Read the article. Find the words in *italics* below in the article. Then match each word with its meaning.

..... 1. *disabled*	a. unexpectedly
..... 2. *lyrics*	b. make people think
..... 3. *handicaps*	c. things that make it hard to do what you want
..... 4. *rehearse*	d. words of a song
..... 5. *by chance*	e. unable to walk or move easily
..... 6. *raise awareness*	f. practice before performing in front of an audience

B Answer these questions. Then compare with a partner.

1. Where do the members of Staff Benda Bilili live? .....
2. Why do they use tricycles? .....
3. What kind of music do they play? .....
4. How did they become famous? .....
5. What message do they want to tell the world? .....

C **PAIR WORK** Discuss people you know who had a lot of problems and then became very successful.

LIVEWORKSHEETS