New English File Teacher's Book Intermediate
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Ironic

An old man turned ninety-eight
He [1] _____ and died the next day
It's a black fly in your Chardonnay
It's a death row pardon [2] _____
And isn't it ironic...don't you think?

It's like rain on your [3] _____
It's a free ride when you've [4] _____
It's the good advice that you just didn't take
And who would've thought...? It figures

Mr Play-It-Safe was afraid to fly
He [5] _____ and kissed his kids goodbye
He waited his whole damn life to take that flight
And as the plane [6] _____ he thought
'Well isn't this nice...'
And isn't it ironic...don't you think?

It's like rain, etc.

Well, life has a funny way of sneaking up on you when
You think everything's okay and everything's going right
And life has a funny way of helping you out when
You think everything's gone wrong and everything blows up
In your face

A [7] _____ when you're already late
A [8] _____ on your cigarette break
It's like ten thousand spoons when all you need is [9] _____
It's meeting the man of my dreams
And then meeting [10] _____
Isn't it ironic...don't you think?
A little too ironic... yeah, I really do think.

It's like rain, etc.

Well, life has a funny way of sneaking up on you
And life has a funny funny way of helping you out, helping you out.

a Read the song and try to match gaps 1–10 with a phrase A–J.

- A already paid ☐
- B won the lottery ☐
- C crashed down ☐
- D his beautiful wife ☐
- E no-smoking sign ☐
- F packed his suitcase ☐
- G wedding day ☐
- H traffic jam ☐
- I a knife ☐
- J two minutes too late ☐

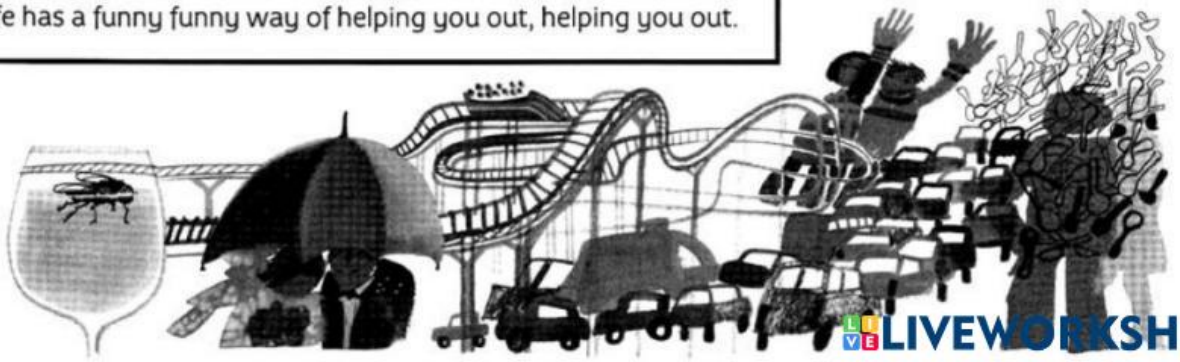
b Listen and check your answers.

Glossary

ironic = strange or amusing because it's the opposite of what you expected
Chardonnay = a kind of white wine
death row = the cells in a prison for prisoners waiting to be executed
It figures. = It makes sense.
sneaking up on you = surprising you
blows up = explodes

Song facts

Ironic was written and first recorded by the Canadian singer Alanis Morissette in 1995. It was her third single and her first top ten hit. It was nominated for a Grammy in the category 'Record of the Year' and in 1996 won the MTV Award for 'Best Female Video'.



LIVEWORKSHEETS