

1 Work in pairs. How often do you laugh in your studies or at your workplace?

2 Choose the correct alternatives to complete the story.



I ¹*sat/was sitting* in the middle of my first English class at university, when suddenly I ²*heard/was hearing* the most unexpected sound: a cat! Everyone ³*had started/started* laughing and looking around for the animal. Even the teacher, who ⁴*had been/had been being* in the middle of explaining a grammar point, ⁵*couldn't/wasn't being able* to keep a straight face. When I ⁶*realised/was realising* the sound ⁷*came/was coming* from my own bag, I ⁸*turned/was turning* bright red. I suddenly ⁹*remembered/had been remembering* that my flatmate ¹⁰*played/had been playing* on my phone that morning. Obviously, she ¹¹*'d changed/'d been changing* the ring tone as a practical joke. I ¹²*switched/was switching* it off as quickly as I could, but for many weeks afterwards, my classmates ¹³*were always asking/had been always asking* whether I ¹⁴*'d brought/'d been bringing* any pets to class in my bag that day.

3 Think of a time when something made you laugh. The situation can be real or imagined. Write some notes about it.

4 Work in pairs. Tell your partner your story. Guess whether your partner's story is real or imagined.