

WHEN THINGS GO WRONG...

Are you having a **bad week**?

Sean Davis

Actually, yes. I was going to work on the train Monday morning, and I was talking to this woman. I guess I wasn't paying attention, and I missed my stop. I was half an hour late for a meeting with my new boss.

Julia Chen

Definitely! My friend accidentally deleted all my music files when she was using my computer. Actually, she was trying to help me — she was downloading stuff from my phone, and something went wrong. I spent hours on the phone with tech support.

Roberto Moreno

Yeah, kind of. A couple of days ago, a friend and I were trying to look cool in front of some girls at the mall. We weren't looking, and we walked right into a glass door. I was so embarrassed.

Read. What happened to each person?

Can you choose the correct verb forms? Use the interviews above to help you.

1. Sean **missed** / **was missing** his stop because he **talked** / **was talking** to a woman on the train.
2. Julia's friend **deleted** / **was deleting** all Julia's music files when she **using** / **was using** her computer.
3. Roberto and his friend **tried** / **were trying** to look cool when they **walked** / **were walking** into a glass door.

Complete the anecdotes with the past continuous or simple past.

1. I **was having** (have) lunch in a café yesterday when the server accidentally _____ (spill) tomato sauce on my shirt. I guess he _____ (not / pay) attention. I was upset, but I _____ (get) my lunch for free.
2. My friend and I were at a barbecue last week. When we _____ (walk) around the yard, she _____ (trip) and _____ (fall) into the pond.
3. I _____ (damage) my parent's car last week. I _____ (try) to park, and my friend _____ (talk) to me, and I _____ (hit) a wall. Now I have to pay for the repairs.
4. I was in chemistry class recently, and a classmate and I _____ (do) an experiment when something _____ (go) wrong. I _____ (burn) my hand.
5. Last week I was on the bus, and I _____ (talk) to my girlfriend on my cell phone. Well, actually, we _____ (have) a long argument. We _____ (not / get along) at the time. When I _____ (end) the call, I realized that everyone on the bus _____ (listen). How embarrassing!

Speaking naturally False rise intonation

*I was running for a **bus** last week, and I **fell**.*

*When I was going **home** yesterday, I ran into an old **friend**.*

Listen and repeat the sentences above. Notice that the intonation falls and then rises slightly at the end of the first of each sentence. This sets the background.

Listen and complete the sentences. Then listen again and repeat.

1. I was reading a book _____, and I missed my stop.
2. Last night when I was washing _____, I broke a glass.
3. I was texting _____, and I tripped and fell on the street.
4. Yesterday when I was using _____, it suddenly crashed.