Reading: a story

1 Read the story and order the events.



This isn't a story, is it?

Yesterday was a most unusual day. Wherever Richard the penguin went, he was asked questions. He was cycling along an ice floe, on his way to his traditional Saturday-morning visit to the igloo library, when a seal shouted out, 'You're Richard, aren't you? My brother is in your How To Watch Out For Polar Bears class!'

Later, Richard was by himself at the library, and, as he was looking at the books about human beings and their ways, a seal pup appeared at his side. She said, 'You're quite tall, aren't you? Would you get *How To Fly* down from the top shelf for me, please?'

In the supermarket, where Richard went for some fish cereal, other penguins kept saying, 'It's hotter than normal today, isn't it?' or 'This weather is great, isn't it?' Richard didn't think it was great because he was very concerned about global warming, but he didn't say anything.

By the time Richard got home, he was wondering why people seemed so keen on asking him things. He had no idea. Just then, his dad came in from the large chunk of ice he had been sitting on and said, 'Hi, Richard. You aren't hungry, are you? If you are, I'll make us some fish soup and we can chat about the day. Now, if you're lucky, I may have some prawns in here.' It was only when Richard was in his bedroom that night, and undressing before going to sleep, that he realised that the sentence on his T-shirt read, 'You're asking me a question, aren't you?'

a A seal pup asks Richard to help her. ____

b Richard's dad says he will make something to eat. ____

c Richard begins cycling to the library. 1

d Richard meets a seal pup. ____

e Richard goes to the supermarket. ____

f Richard sees the sentence on his T-shirt. ____

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Writing

1 **Complete these sentences from the story with the phrases from the box. Then look back at the story to check your answers.**

Richard was by himself at the library	his dad came in
Richard was in his bedroom that night	Richard got home
~~was a most unusual day~~	

1 Yesterday was a most unusual day.
2 Later, _____.
3 By the time _____.
4 Just then, _____.
5 It was only when _____.

Help with Writing

If the reader knows when a story took place, i.e. *yesterday, last week, many years ago*, it is easier for them to make sense of it. It is also a good idea to order the sequence of events in the story. You can do this by using time expressions such as *then, afterwards, after that, at that moment, suddenly, a moment later* and *later on*.

2 **You are going to write a short story about something unusual that happened at the North Pole. Use time expressions in your story. Before you write your story, plan it by making notes about the following:**

- the title of the story
- the plot (what happens in the story)
- the characters (the people or animals in the story).

LIVEWORKSHEETS