

a strange meal	a lucky find	exceptional qualifications
a famous person you've met	an unusual trip	an annoying neighbour
a strange job	an incredible talent	a frightening experience
a special possession	a past relationship	a bad accident
a bad allergy	extreme weather	a fantastic prize

Useful language

Justifying what happened

You'll never believe this, but ...

It happened to me when ...

I was really ...

I promise this is true ...

I can prove it! I have ...

I'm not lying, honestly!

Final decision

I think the lie must be ...

I suppose the story could be ...

Checking the story

That can't be true, can it?

Are you sure ...?

Yes, but on the other hand ...

Tell us more about ...

It all seems a bit unlikely.

Why did/didn't you ...

You can't have ...

Activity

Group work: speaking

Aim

To guess the true story

Grammar

Narrative tenses, language of deduction

Preparation

Make one copy of the worksheet for each group of three students.

Time

20–30 minutes

Lesson link

Unit 10, pages 154–155

Teaching notes

Procedure

- › Organise students into groups of three.
- › Explain that they are going to tell three stories, one true and two false. They each have to choose three topics from a selection of topics. More than one student can use the same topic as long as they don't repeat each other's ideas.
- › Pre-teach a *lucky find*.
- › Give each group a copy of the worksheet.
- › Students decide on their stories. Allow them time to make some notes.
- › Give an example yourself. Choose three of the topics and tell three brief stories (exaggerate the false stories a little if you like). Have the class ask you questions from the 'Checking the story' section of the Useful language box.
- › Each student tells their stories and the other members in the group ask them questions to find out which story is true and which are false. Remind them to use the language from the Useful expressions box.
- › Get feedback from the class. Ask a few students to tell the rest of the class one of their stories and have a vote on which student's story was the most convincing.