

A story

I can write a story with a simple linear sequence.

- 1 **SPEAKING** Tell your partner about a surprising or interesting thing that happened to you on holiday.

Say:

- 1 where and when it happened.
- 2 how old you were.
- 3 what you were doing when it happened.

- 2 Read Paul's story and choose the best title, A, B or C.

- A The Holiday of a Lifetime
B Surprise by the Sea
C Beautiful Cornwall

I was twelve years old and my parents and I were on holiday in Cornwall. They are both biologists and we all love nature. One morning, Dad suggested walking along the beach to a distant village.

It was a lovely day for a walk, but after an hour, I noticed some dark clouds. I asked my parents if they thought we should go back. They smiled at each other, and then Mum said we were nearly there.

What was going on? Mum usually made me go indoors during storms. What's more, we were still far away from the village. Anyway, suddenly, there was loud thunder and it started to rain. "Come on, quick!" my father said. "We're almost there."

I noticed a cottage not far away. Dad started running towards it so we ran after him. When we got there, he seemed really excited, which I must admit was a bit strange. **Unfortunately**, there was no one home. 'That's unlucky,' said Dad 'but wait...' **Suddenly**, he took a key from his pocket, unlocked the door and pushed it open. He was silent for a moment. Then with a smile he said: "Come in. And welcome home!" **What a surprise!**

In fact, thinking back to my parents' behaviour during the first part of our holiday, I knew something strange was going on – but I had no idea what! Our new holiday home was the perfect place for nature lovers. **It was awesome!**

We still live in London, but our cottage in Cornwall is our dream house, and **I will never forget the day I first saw it.**

- 3 Read the story again and put events in the correct order.

- a Nobody answered the door.
- b The weather changed.
- c The family went into their new holiday home.
- d The family went to Cornwall on holiday.
- e Paul saw a cottage in the distance.
- f The family went for a walk along the coast.

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- 4 Read the **WRITING FOCUS**. Complete the examples with the words in purple in the story.

WRITING FOCUS

A story

- Set the scene:

I ¹was twelve years old when ...

It was late in the evening when ...

It ²_____ a walk.

I was in the classroom when ...

- Use questions, short dramatic sentences and occasional exclamation marks to show surprise or excitement:

What was ³_____ on?

What a ⁴_____ !

What a nightmare!

It was ⁵_____ !

We were in trouble.

- Use adverbs to add interest:

~~At~~ ⁶_____ /

⁷_____, / Luckily,
... really (good)

... incredibly (beautiful)

... completely (lost)

- Use a summarising statement to begin or end your story:

I'll never forget ⁸_____ I first saw ... /

the time I decided to ... / when I first went ... /

... was an event I'll never forget.

