

Mishaps



Murphy's Law



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If anything can go wrong, it will.

Murphy's Law



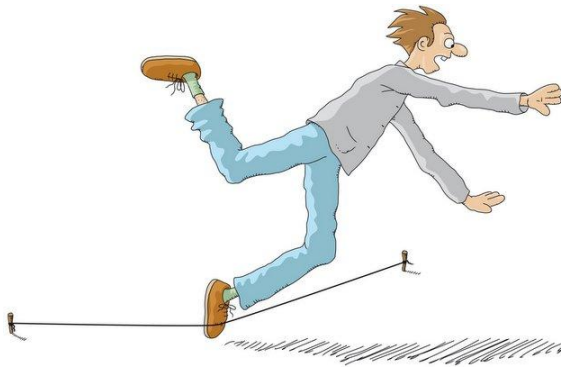
get stuck



slip



trip and fall over



breaks down



bang



spill



lock + pronoun + out/in

lock her out/ lock myself in

slip + on + noun

slipped on ice/ the wet floor

get + on

get on the bus

breaks + down

the train broke down

spill + noun + on
spill coffee on the table

spill + over
the milk spilled over

bang + against
bang against the wall

1a Read the descriptions of people's worst experiences and replace the words in bold with the correct form of a word/phrase in the box.

.....
bang my head break down damage drop
get confused ~~get lost~~ get on get stuck
lock myself out lose miss oversleep
run out of petrol slip spill trip
.....

The wedding

It was my friend Mike's wedding and it was in a church in the middle of nowhere about 40 km from Vancouver. Anyway, I didn't have a map and I ¹**became unable to find my way** and missed the ceremony. Then at the party afterwards I ²**caught my foot on something** and ³**dropped from my glass** my drink all over the bride's wedding dress! Worst of all, at the end of an uncomfortable evening, I realised I ⁴**was unable to find** the piece of paper with the name of my hotel and so I had to sleep in my car.

Steve - Canada

1 got lost 2 _____ 3 _____ 4 _____

The interview

I had an interview for a job I really wanted. Unfortunately, my alarm clock didn't go off and I ⁵**slept too much**. I ran to the station but I was in such a rush that I ⁶**became so I was not thinking clearly** and ⁷**entered** the wrong train. I didn't arrive in Frankfurt until lunchtime and I was three hours late for the interview. Needless to say, I didn't get the job.

Helga - Germany

5 _____ 6 _____ 7 _____

The journey

I'd just been to a terrible party in Edinburgh and it was January. While I was there I ⁸**accidentally let** my mobile **fall from my hand** on the floor and I ⁹**nearly broke** it, so it didn't work. Well, on my way home, my car ¹⁰**stopped working**, and my mobile wasn't working, so I had to walk. It had been snowing and the road was very icy. I ¹¹**slid with my feet** on the ice and ¹²**knocked my head hard** on a tree. I woke up later in hospital with a very bad headache.

Pat - Scotland

8 _____ 9 _____ 10 _____
11 _____ 12 _____

The flight

It happened when I had to catch a plane from Madrid. I started off nice and early but then on the way there I ¹³**used all my petrol and didn't have any left**. I managed to buy a can from a nearby garage, but when I got back to the car I saw my keys inside it and realized I had ¹⁴**kept myself out by locking it**. A helpful mechanic from the garage found a key that opened the door and I continued on my journey. As I approached Madrid I ¹⁵**became unable to move** in traffic for half an hour. As you can imagine, I ¹⁶**failed to catch** my plane.

José - Spain

13 _____ 14 _____ 15 _____ 16 _____

2. tripped	7. got on	12. banged my head
3. spilled	8. dropped	13. ran out of petrol
4. had lost	9. damaged	14. locked myself out
5. overslept	10. broke down	15. got stuck
6. got confused	11. slipped	16. missed

-Write a short story based your
worst mishap.

~200 words

