

Vocabulary

Mishaps

1 Look at the mishaps below and check you understand the words in bold. Think of more examples to add to the list.

- You **lose** your keys and **lock** yourself out.
- You **get stuck** in traffic and miss an appointment.
- You **slip** on some ice.
- You **trip** and **fall over**.
- You **get on the wrong train**.
- You **get confused** and make a mistake.
- Your car **breaks down**.
- You **bang** your head.
- You **get lost**.
- You **spill** paint on your clothes.
- You **run out of petrol**.
- You **oversleep** and **miss your train**.
- You **drop** something valuable and break it.
- You borrow something without asking and **damage** it.

03 IT ALL WENT WRONG

Vocabulary

Mishaps

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 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 _____

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 _____

b Complete the gaps with the correct form of a word or phrase from exercise 1a.

- 1 Hello, is that Park Street Garage? My car *has broken down*. Can you send someone to help?
- 2 Be careful or you _____ your coffee!
- 3 Eric _____ most of the meeting. He only arrived fifteen minutes before the end.
- 4 a: What happened?
b: The floor was wet and I _____ and twisted my ankle. It's nothing serious.
- 5 You _____ the wrong train. This one is going to London. The Birmingham train is on platform nine.
- 6 The city centre is terrible. You can _____ in traffic jams for hours.
- 7 The hotel was so large that the first day Haifa worked there, she _____ and ended up in the laundry room.
- 8 Sorry to bother you but I _____ sugar. Can you lend me some?
- 9 I often _____ between Shaun and Ben. The twins look so similar.
- 10 I'm sorry I'm so late. My neighbours kept me awake last night and I _____ this morning.
- 11 Sheena felt so embarrassed when she _____ her glass and it smashed on the floor.
- 12 a: Are you OK?
b: Yes, I just _____ my head on the cupboard door. I think I need to sit down for a moment.
- 13 It was dark in the living room and the police officer _____ over something and nearly fell.
- 14 She closed the door and then realised she _____. Her key was still inside.
- 15 _____ anybody _____ a wallet? I found this in the hall.
- 16 If you _____ anything in the shop, you will have to pay for it.



When was the last time you forgot your keys and locked yourself out?

Have you ever gotten stuck in traffic and missed an important appointment?

Talk about one time when you slipped on something (ice, wet floor, banana peel, etc) and fell.

How often do you get on the wrong train/bus?

Have you ever confused a stranger for someone you know? What happened?

When was the last time you got lost in another country?

Have you ever spilled a drink on your clothes during an important meeting?

Has your car ever broken down when you were on the road?

Have you ever banged your head into a glass door in public?

Have you ever borrowed something from a friend and accidentally broke/dirtied it?

Have you ever overslept and missed a flight/train?

Have you ever sent an embarrassing text to someone who was not supposed to receive it?



UNIT 3

1a

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

1b

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------|
| 2 'll spill | 3 missed | 4 slipped |
| 5 're getting on / 've got on | | 6 get stuck |
| 7 got lost | 8 've run out of | 9 get confused |
| 10 overslept | 11 dropped | 12 banged |
| 13 tripped | 14 'd locked herself out | 15 Has, lost |
| 16 damage | | |

