speakout READING & LISTENING EXTRA

PRE-INTERMEDIATE UNIT 5

- Work in pairs and discuss.
 - **1** Have you ever been on a bad holiday? What happened?
 - **2** What other bad things do you think could happen on holiday?
- Read the article about holiday nightmares. Does it contain any of your ideas from Exercise 1?

Holiday Nightmares

Going on holiday is supposed to be a fun and relaxing break from everyday life, but things don't always go to plan. We asked readers to tell us about their holiday nightmares.

Sally, Glasgow

'We booked a cheap and cheerful package holiday with a well-known travel company. We expected to spend a week relaxing by the pool, but the holiday started badly and didn't improve!



First, the flight was delayed for five hours. Then, when we got there, we had to wait ages at the airport for the bus to come and take us to the hotel. Finally, just when we thought things couldn't get any worse, we arrived at the hotel and saw that part of it was still a building site!'

Derek, Manchester



she didn't speak any English, and didn't understand the French we were trying to speak. She eventually arrived, but when she opened the door of the cottage, we saw that the cottage was infested with frogs!

Gabriella, Cardiff

'When I was backpacking around South America, I took a ten-hour bus trip. I was having a great time, until they served lunch.

About an hour later, everyone got food poisoning and the toilet on the bus didn't work!

Then it started to rain really heavily and the bus broke down in a flood – we had to wait for four hours for a replacement bus! While we were waiting, I got bitten by a spider. Luckily there was a first aid kit on the bus!'

3	Read the article again. Who talks about the following
	Sally (S), Derek (D) or Gabriella (G)?

- 1 He/She had difficulties with a foreign language.
- **2** He/She had problems because of bad weather.
- **3** He/She hoped to spend his/her holiday doing very little.
- 4 He/She got attacked by an animal.
- **5** He/She saw lots of animals.
- **6** He/She booked his/her holiday on the internet.

4 Find words/phrases in the article that match the synonyms 1–6.

- 1 things not happening the way you think they will
- 2 very bad situation(s)
- 3 not perfect but not terrible
- 4 a very long time
- **5** full of
- 6 an illness you get from eating something bad

5 5.1 Listen to a radio interview with Gabriella from the article. Does she sound angry or amused about her holiday nightmare?

Listen again. Are the sentences true (T) or false (F)?

- 1 The holiday lasted one month.
- **2** The bus had to wait on the Colombia-Brazil border.
- **3** The police looked in everyone's bag.
- 4 Gabriella's friend spoke Spanish.
- **5** The police didn't find anything in Gabriella's bag.
- **6** The police wanted to remember what happened.

Look at the extracts from the recording. Choose the correct meaning, a) or b), for the words and phrases in bold.

- 1 I was backpacking around South America with some mates from uni ...
 - **a)** friends (from) university **b)** teachers (from) school
- **2** The police asked everyone to get off the bus so they could do a **random baggage check**.
 - a) planned look into everyone's bags
 - **b)** unplanned look into some people's bags
- **3** The police all looked very angry and started **shouting** at me in Spanish!
 - **a)** talking loudly **b)** talking quietly
- **4** They found some small, '**suspicious**' bags and they wanted to know what was inside them!
 - a) normal, everyday bags which lots of people carry
 - **b)** strange, unusual bags which not many people carry
- **5** So the police **saw the funny side of it**, too?
 - a) didn't think it was funny b) thought it was funny
- 6 That's hilarious!
 - **a)** very, very funny **b)** very, very scary
- Work in pairs and discuss. Do you prefer going on holiday with your friends or your family? Why?