

AIM

To put a picture story in order, then retell the story

LANGUAGE

Past Simple and Continuous
(Extension: adverbs.)

SKILLS

Speaking and Writing

MATERIALS

One copy of the cut up worksheet for each pair of students

HOW TO CUSTOMIZE

You can change this worksheet on computer or by hand, using the customizable version.

Here are some ideas:

- Replace the pictures, either drawn by hand, or from another source.
- Invite your students to draw their own pictures.

ANSWERS

Suggested order: c, f, i, a, e, l, b, d, k, h, j, g

A married couple was window-shopping in a fashionable shopping mall when the woman saw a beautiful hat that she really liked in a designer shop.

It was her birthday the following day, so her husband decided to buy her the hat. He also bought them tickets to the theatre to see a popular show. His wife was very happy when she received her birthday presents: the beautiful hat and the theatre tickets.

They were having dinner at home when the man realized they were late for the theatre. They arrived at the theatre just in time to catch the start of the show – they barely had time to check in their clothes at the cloakroom. They sat comfortably and watched the show. Afterwards, the man quickly checked out their clothes from the cloakroom, but the cloakroom attendant didn't give him the beautiful new hat! His wife was really upset, and she cried while her husband was having an argument with the cloakroom attendant.

They waited until everyone had taken their clothes, but they still couldn't find the new hat. The man tried to comfort his wife.

The same evening, the man took his wife back to the designer shop just before it was closing. He bought her another hat.

When they got home, they realized the birthday present was still on the table – they hadn't taken the new hat to the theatre after all!

Pre-activity (5 minutes)

- Ask students what the most expensive thing they ever bought in a shop was. Ask them if they bought it for themselves or as a present.
- Ask them how they felt about buying it, and if they still have the object.

Procedure (20 minutes)

- Explain that students are going to put some pictures from a story about a birthday present into the correct order and then retell the story. Write *The birthday present* on the board.
- Pre-teach/check the following key vocabulary:
window-shopping designer shop gift box queue box office cloakroom cloakroom attendant
- Divide the students into pairs and give each pair a jumbled set of picture cards.
- Ask students to look at the pictures first and make a list of all the adjectives they could use to describe the objects, the people, or the people's feelings in the pictures.
- Tell students that the letters a–l do not give the correct order.
- Ask students to try and put the pictures into the correct order. Ask them as a class to say which they think is the first picture (c).
- Explain that they need to talk in detail about what happens in the story. Allow up to 10–12 minutes for them to do this.
- Go around helping students where necessary. Encourage them to add adverbs, and use both the Past Simple and Past Continuous forms.
- Ask students to work with another pair. Each pair should retell their story. The pairs can then discuss/debate any similarities or differences between their stories.
- The teacher should choose a pair who have the correct story and ask them to retell it to the whole class. If there are any interesting variations on the story, you may like to elicit those as well.

Extension (15 minutes)

- Brainstorm some adverbs students could use to describe the events in the story.
- In pairs, students write down the story of *The birthday present* in their notebook. This could be done as a dictation.
- Encourage students to use adverbs and add details to make their stories more interesting. Go around helping with vocabulary as necessary.