

4A | Luck of the draw

Can do (tick✓)

- ☐ I can understand the main ideas in an article.
- ☐ I can use idioms to talk about taking risks.
- ☐ I can use the past simple and past continuous to tell a story.
- ☐ I can distinguish between the strong and weak forms of the pronunciation of *was* and *were*.

Lucky & unlucky numbers

Which numbers are lucky or unlucky in your country? Do you have a personal lucky number?
Which six numbers would you choose for your lottery ticket? Why?

The lottery, gambling & competitions

Have you ever done any of the following?

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> bought a winning lottery ticket | <input type="checkbox"/> won a prize in a competition |
| <input type="checkbox"/> won money on the result of a sporting event | <input type="checkbox"/> won money in a casino or on a gaming machine |

Write a sentence about your experiences.

Where's the stress?

Where would you usually find the main stress in these expressions?

a bit of a gamble a lot at stake against the odds play safe try my luck

Diary

What is the most interesting thing that has happened in your English class so far?

“Why do you never see a headline like “Psychic wins lottery”?”

Jay Leno (American comedian)



4B | Coincidences

Can do (tick✓)

- ☐ I can understand a conversation about lifestyle.
- ☐ I can discuss similarities and differences.
- ☐ I can use *both* and *neither* to compare people and things.
- ☐ I can recognize the main topics discussed in informal conversations.

Coincidences

Do you believe in coincidences? Have there been any strange coincidences in your own life?



In 1975, while riding a moped in Bermuda, a man was accidentally hit and killed by a taxi. On the same day, a year later, this man's brother was killed in the same way. In fact, he was riding the very same moped. And even more of a coincidence, he was hit by the same taxi with the same driver – carrying the same passenger.

My family

Write some things that are true about your family using *neither* and *both*.

Responding

Write true responses to these comments for you, e.g. *So do I*, *Neither am I*, *I don't*, etc.

I love chocolate.

I can drive.

I've never been to America.

I can't stand folk music.

4C | Twists of fate

Can do (tick✓)

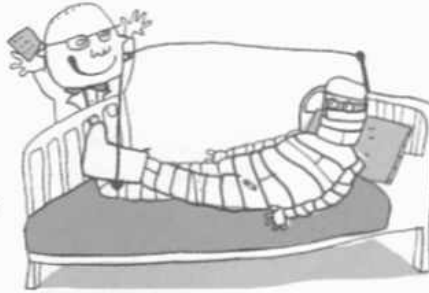
- ☐ I can understand specific facts in a news story.
- ☐ I can give explanations for common injuries.
- ☐ I can use the past perfect to talk about a sequence of events in the past.
- ☐ I can discuss superstitions and beliefs in my country.

Injuries

Which of these injuries have you had?

a twisted ankle a black eye a burn
a cut that needed stitches a broken arm

Write about your injury. Where were you? What happened?
How long did it take you to recover?



'Good news, Mr Anderson. We've found your lottery ticket.'

A lucky escape

Have you ever had a lucky escape? What happened?

Some bad experiences

Complete these sentences with some imaginary endings.

I couldn't get into my house because _____.

I wasn't allowed to enter the nightclub because _____.

I had to walk home because _____.

Now write a sentence to describe a true bad experience.

What can you remember?

What can you remember about the things that happened to Frane Selak in lesson 4C?
Is he really lucky ... or unlucky?

Superstitions

Which of these superstitions exist in your country?



It's bad luck to walk under a ladder.



It's bad luck to open an umbrella indoors.



It's good luck if you have a horseshoe hanging over your fireplace.

Write two more superstitions that are common in your country.

Diary

You are now a third of the way through *Straightforward Intermediate*. How are you getting on? Do you feel your English is improving?

Lottery quiz

1 What are your chances of winning a national lottery big prize?

- a 1 in 1 million
- b 1 in 14 million
- c 1 in 100 million

2 If you play the same lottery numbers every week, week after week, how often are you likely to win the top prize?

- a once every 2,300 years
- b once every 56,000 years
- c once every 250,000 years

*Fear is the main source of superstition ...
to conquer fear is the beginning of wisdom.*

Bertrand Russell (English philosopher, 1872–1970)