

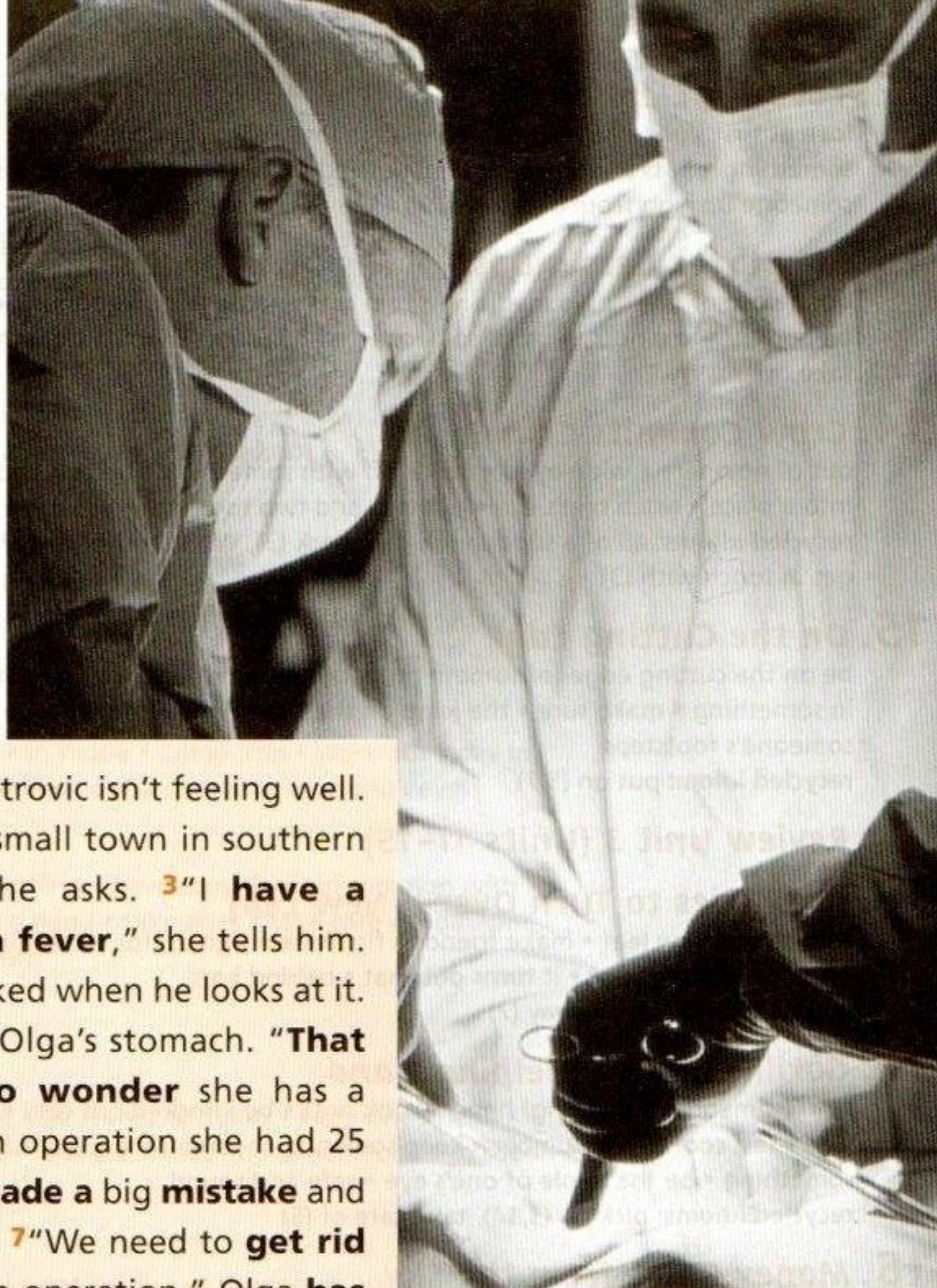
# 1 It's No Wonder!

## 1. Quick Reading

Look at the pictures on page 3.

What is the story about?

Now read quickly to get the main idea.



**SARATOV, RUSSIA** <sup>1</sup>One day, Olga Petrovic isn't feeling well. <sup>2</sup>She goes to see the doctor in her small town in southern Russia. "**What's the matter?**" he asks. <sup>3</sup>"**I have a stomachache.**" <sup>4</sup>And I'm **running a fever**," she tells him. <sup>5</sup>The doctor takes an x-ray. He's shocked when he looks at it. There's a 12-inch piece of metal in Olga's stomach. "**That takes the cake!**" he thinks. "**No wonder** she has a stomachache!" <sup>6</sup>Olga remembers an operation she had 25 years ago. Apparently, the surgeon **made a big mistake** and left a medical instrument inside her. <sup>7</sup>"We need to **get rid of** it," says the doctor. "You need an operation." Olga **has cold feet** and wants to **put it off**. But her doctor wants her to have the operation **right away**. <sup>8</sup>Now the medical instrument is gone and Olga is recovering.

## New idioms and expressions

(it's) no wonder	it's not surprising
What's the matter?	What's wrong?
have a stomachache	feel pain in one's stomach
run a fever	have a high body temperature
That takes the cake!	That's really strange!; That's the worst!
make a mistake	do something incorrectly
get rid of something*	remove something
have cold feet	be afraid to do something
put something off*	delay or postpone something
right away	immediately

Words in parentheses ( ) can occur with the idiom, but don't have to.

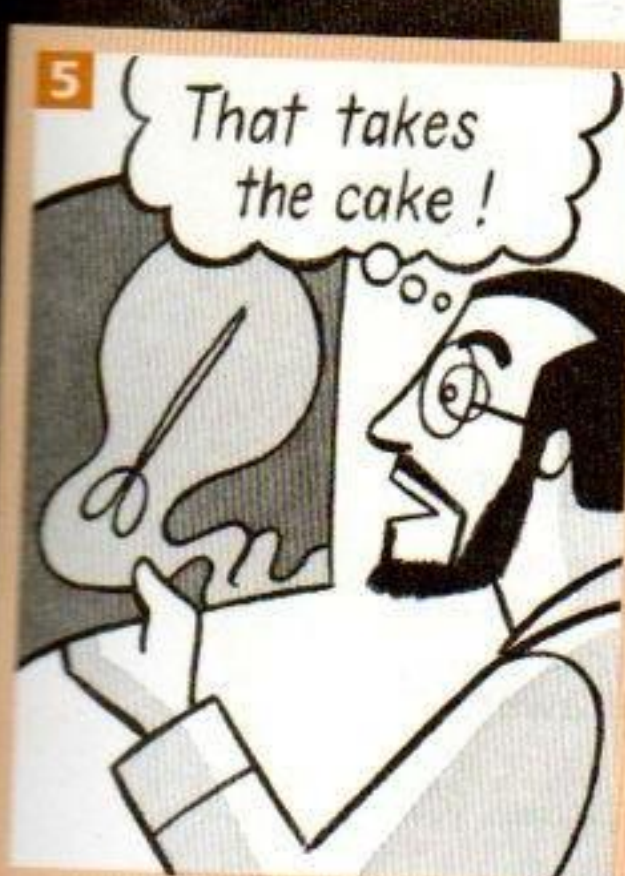
\*phrasal verb (see Lexicon, pp. 116–150 and Appendix D, pp. 112–115)



## 2. Listen

Cover the story and look only at these pictures. Listen to the story two or three times.

**Note:** As the tape or your teacher says a number, look at the corresponding picture.



## 3. Read the Story

Now read the story carefully. Pay special attention to the idioms so that you're ready for Exercise 4.

## 4. Listen and Complete

Close your book. Listen to the story again. When the tape or your teacher pauses, try to complete the idiom.

## 5. Tell the Story

Cover the story and look at the pictures above. Tell the story using as many idioms as you can.

- First, work with the whole class to retell the story.
- Then tell the story to a partner or small group.



## 6. Answer the Questions

### About the story.....

- What's the matter with Olga when she goes to the doctor?
- What does the doctor say when he sees the x-ray?
- What happened to her 25 years ago?
- Why does Olga need another operation?
- Why does she want to put it off?

### About you.....

- Have you ever had an operation?
- How do you feel today? Do you have a stomachache, a headache, or a cold?
- How often do you think doctors make serious mistakes? Tell about a time when *you* made a big mistake.
- Are you putting off something that you should be doing? If so, what?
- Is there something you won't do because you have cold feet?
- Do you have any bad habits that you'd like to get rid of?

## 7. Write About Yourself

Complete the sentences, writing something true about yourself.

- When I'm running a fever, I \_\_\_\_\_.
- I often put off \_\_\_\_\_ because \_\_\_\_\_.
- I need to \_\_\_\_\_ right away.
- I want to get rid of some of my possessions, including \_\_\_\_\_.

## 8. Write a Dialogue

Work with a partner. Write a dialogue using at least three idioms from the unit.  
Act it out for a small group or the class.

## 9. Take a Dictation





## 10. Complete the Story

a. Read this true story and fill in the blanks with idioms from the box.

- it's no wonder
- made the mistake
- get rid of
- is running a fever
- has a stomachache
- right away

# Doctors Make a BIG Mistake

**San Francisco, CA, USA** One day, Richard Kearney, 47, has an operation on his bladder. When he returns home from the hospital, he (1) has a stomachache. Several days later, he has a lot of pain and (2) \_\_\_\_\_.

An X ray shows that there is something large in his stomach. Doctors operate (3) \_\_\_\_\_ because they know they need to (4) \_\_\_\_\_ it. When they cut Kearney open, they pull a 2-foot-long towel out of his stomach! Apparently, doctors left it inside him during the first operation.

(5) \_\_\_\_\_ that Kearney was in pain. He is taking the doctors who (6) \_\_\_\_\_ to court.

b. Read or tell the story to a partner.



