

A Summer's Tale!

STUDY TIP

We use **time words** (first, as soon as, after, then, etc.) in stories to **make the order in which events happen clear to the reader.**

e.g. **As soon as** she got into the water, she swam ...

After she had swum a short distance, she ...

Then she saw the seal.

- 7** First read the story below and put the paragraphs in the correct order. Then, circle the correct time words.



a 3 **Before/When** they could do anything, something pushed the boat into the air from below. The next thing they knew they were in the water. Pam held on to Freddy and they swam quickly back to the shore. **As soon as/When** they looked back at the lake, nothing was there, not even their boat!

b 1 It was around midnight and there was a full moon over the lake. The sky was clear and the stars were shining brightly. The night seemed to be full of magic and mystery. Freddy and Pam had decided to go night-fishing.

c 4 They felt really puzzled about what had happened. It was a very strange experience and they still don't know what the thing in the water was. But there is a full moon again soon and they are planning to go back to the lake!

d 2 **As/First** they were rowing to the middle of the lake they saw a huge black shape in the water. Freddy had brought a torch with him so he pointed it at the strange thing. **After/Then,** suddenly, it disappeared under the surface.

- 8** Read the story in Ex. 7 again and underline :

- the sentence which describes *the weather*.
- the sentence which describes *the atmosphere*.
- the *adjectives* which describe *feelings*.
- the sentence(s) which create(s) *mystery or suspense*.

Study these examples.

It was a hot summer day **and** the sun was shining.
The seal was crying **because** it had got caught in the net.
Then Ann saw a small fishing boat, **so** she climbed onto a rock.

- 9** Join the two columns below to make complete sentences.

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 He opened the door | a because he was going to a party. |
| 2 Suddenly, there was a knock on the door | b and it was snowing heavily. |
| 3 It was New Year's Eve | c and saw an old man standing there. |
| 4 The man was a millionaire | d because he had got lost in the snow. |
| 5 The old man needed help | e so Tom went downstairs and opened it. |
| 6 Tom was upstairs getting ready | f so he gave Tom a large reward for helping him. |

Now put the sentences in the correct order and try to tell the story.

3 6 2 1 5 4

- 10** CAN YOU WRITE A GOOD STORY?
Test yourself by answering these questions.

- Which tense do we use to give background information?
A past simple B past continuous C past perfect
- Which paragraphs make up the main body of a story?
A 1 and 2 B 3 and 4 C 2 and 3
- Which paragraph describes the main event?
A the third B the second C the first
- Which paragraph sets the scene?
A the second B the third C the first
- Which tense do we use to describe an action which happened before another action in the past?
A past perfect B past simple C past continuous
- We never end a story by ...
A writing "THE END" at the bottom of the page.
B creating mystery or suspense.
C using direct speech.

TING

P

Write a story, divide it into four paragraphs. Begin your story by setting the scene (who, where, when, what, the second paragraph, describe the events which happened before the main event. In the third paragraph, the main event. End your story by describing people's feelings or reactions. Use direct speech and a variety of adjectives to make your story more interesting to the reader. In stories we use past tenses. We also use time words (first, then, after, etc) to narrate the events in the order in which they

Match the sentences to the pictures below.

I ran to the first door, rang the bell and shouted. It was a cold, dark evening and the streets were empty. "Don't worry! You left your handbag on the train!" the man explained. I then heard footsteps behind her.



D

First, answer the following questions, then tell the story by looking at the pictures.

- 1 What was the weather like?
- 2 Who was involved in the story?
- 3 Where and when did the story take place?
- 4 What did she see when she looked over her shoulder?
- 5 How do you think she felt?
- 6 What did she feel on her arm?
- 7 What did the man say?
- 8 What do you think happened at the end of the story?

12 Use the information from Ex. 11 and the plan below to write a story entitled *A Stranger in the Night*.

Plan

Paragraph 1:

set the scene (who, where, when, what)

Paragraph 2:

describe the events which happened before the main event

Paragraph 3:

describe the main event

