

Dinner was going well...

A2-B1 · Teens and adults · 40-50 minutes

This was the kitchen at 6:55 p.m. Five minutes later, something unexpected happened.



Left: Maya, green apron. **Centre:** Ben, blue shirt. **Right:** Sara, ochre top.

1. Build the scene, then predict

Describe what each person was doing. Look near the cat, phone, shopping bag and flour. Agree two possible events. Point to a clue for each prediction.

Start: At 6:55, Maya was... Ben was... Sara was...

Predict: Perhaps... / I think... because...

Ask: What makes you think that? What else could happen?

A quick grammar reminder

An activity in progress: Ben **was stirring** the sauce.

An event in the story: Sara **put** a plate on the table.

Form: was/were + verb-ing · past form · did + base verb

Question: What **was** Ben **doing**? What **did** he **do** next?

Keep your predictions. A picture shows one moment; it does not prove what happened later.



Dinner takes a different turn

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How to use the audio: Listen to one part at a time, then pause and talk. Keep the scripts closed. Listen again only if you need a detail. Audio and downloads are also on the lesson page.

2. Part 1: The lights go out

► Play Part 1

Listen: What changed in the kitchen? Compare it with your picture predictions.

Check together: What did Maya put down? What did Ben decide to switch off?

Pause and talk: You are in the kitchen too. What would you say or do first? Choose one idea together and explain why.

3. Part 2: A visitor in the dark

► Play Part 2

Listen: Why was Jo useful? What was Ben doing when the phone rang?

One detail: Name two things Ben found instead of the torch.

Pause at the crash: What do you think fell? Who or what might have caused it? Agree on one explanation before Part 3.

Try: I think... because... / Perhaps someone was... when...

Our prediction: _____

What really happened?

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4. Part 3: What fell?

► Play Part 3

Listen: Was Ben right about the plates? What was on the floor?

Compare clues: Where was the cat? Whose shoes were beside the white line?

Pause and decide: Keep your prediction or change it. Tell your partner which clue helped you. What do you think Ben will explain?

5. Part 4: The explanation

► Play Part 4

Listen: Why did the flour fall? What was Sara doing when the lights returned?

React: Why did Jo mention dessert? What would you say to him?

6. Send a voice message about the evening

Imagine you are Jo, telling a friend about dinner. Take 30 seconds to choose four keywords. Then speak for about 45 seconds. Your partner asks one question. Swap roles.

Start: When I arrived, they were... / While we were..., ...

Connect: Just then... / A moment later... / In the end...

Optional homework: four quick gaps

1. Maya _____ tomatoes when the lights went out. (slice)
2. While Ben _____, the phone rang. (look for the torch)
3. Ben _____ the towel and the flour _____. (pull / fall)
4. What _____ Sara _____ when the lights returned? (do)

Then write your own two-sentence scene and event. Answers are in the teacher PDF.

Your turn: what happened next?

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Choose a few questions. Give examples and ask follow-up questions.

Invent a story or pass if you prefer. You do not need to answer every question.

1. When did a meal go differently from the plan?

What were you making, and what happened?

2. Tell us about a journey with an unexpected moment.

What were you doing when things changed?

3. When did a phone call interrupt something?

What were you doing? Did you stop?

4. Think of a time you lost something.

What were you doing before you noticed?

5. When did technology stop working at an awkward moment?

What did you do next?

6. Tell us about a surprise visitor or message.

What were you doing when they arrived or it came?

7. When did the weather change your plans?

What were you planning to do?

8. Tell us about a small mistake that became a funny story.

Who noticed it first?

9. Think of a time someone helped you unexpectedly.

What was happening, and how did they help?

10. What were you doing at this time yesterday?

What happened before or after that?

11. Tell us about something interesting you saw while travelling.

What was happening around you?

12. When did an ordinary day become memorable?

What changed, and how did the day end?

Follow the story: Where were you? / Who was there? / What did you do next?

To finish: Share one detail you found interesting.