

The Trip That Went Wrong

Level: B1

A woman tells her friends about a holiday that went wrong. Listen to her story, then do the exercises.

The audio for this activity is available online.

Reading text

Last summer, my sister and I went to Portugal for a week, and nothing went the way we had planned. We woke up at five because our train to the airport left at six. While we were waiting for a taxi, it started to rain heavily. By the time we reached the station, the train had already left. We took a bus instead, but we missed our flight, so we waited six hours for the next one.

When we finally landed in Lisbon, we were exhausted. We had been awake since five, and we had not eaten anything all day. Then we discovered that the airline had lost my suitcase. I had packed my sunscreen, my camera and my favourite jacket in it. The staff promised to find it, and they gave me a small bag with a few basic things. I wore the same clothes for two days. My sister lent me a T-shirt, but it was too small, and we laughed a lot.

On the third day, we decided to visit the beach. The sun had been shining all morning, so we felt quite hopeful. While we were walking there, the sky turned dark, and it began to pour. We had left our umbrellas at the hotel, so we got completely soaked. After we had dried off, the airline called me. They had found my suitcase, and it was waiting at the hotel. Honestly, it was a stressful week, but now we laugh about it every time we remember it.

Glossary

airline	a company that flies planes with passengers
exhausted	very, very tired
discovered	found out something you did not know
suitcase	a big bag for your clothes when you travel
staff	the people who work in a place
pour	when it rains very hard, we say that it begins to pour
soaked	completely wet
stressful	making you feel worried and nervous

Exercise 1: Listen and choose

Listening: online only.

Exercise 2: Right or wrong?

Listen to the whole story, then decide whether each sentence is correct.

1. The sisters woke up at five o'clock on the first morning. True / False
2. The sisters caught the train to the airport. True / False

3. The airline found the suitcase in the end. True / False
4. The sisters were already on the beach when the rain started. True / False

Exercise 3: Choose the correct answer

Listen to the whole story, then select the correct answer.

5. What did the sisters do after they missed the train?
a) They took a taxi b) They took a bus c) They went home
6. What did the airline staff give the speaker?
a) A new suitcase b) A free night at a hotel c) A small bag with a few things
7. How does the speaker feel about the trip now?
a) She can laugh about it b) She is still very angry c) She never talks about it

Exercise 4: Listen and write

Listening: online only.

Answer key

Exercise 2: Right or wrong?

1. True
2. False
3. True
4. False

Exercise 3: Choose the correct answer

5. b) They took a bus
6. c) A small bag with a few things
7. a) She can laugh about it

Free English worksheet from FluencyRoad — practice this topic interactively at <https://www.fluencyroad.com/listening/the-trip-that-went-wrong>