

MIXED-UP STORIES

Aim: Give Ss practice making predictions, listening, and sequencing events in a story.

Preparation: Make one copy of the worksheet for every four Ss. Cut out the slips and put each set of slips in an envelope. Have available the audio program for the Listening on page 80 and an audio player.

Comment: Use instead of the Listening on page 80. Use the audio program for the Listening.

- Write the names *Yang Zhifa* and *Gwyneth Paltrow* on the board. Ask what Ss know about these two people (e.g., “Who are they? Why are they famous? Where are they from?”). Tell Ss they are going to listen to how these two people got their lucky breaks.
- Divide the class into groups of four. Give each group an envelope.
- Explain the task. Ss read the slips. Then they make predictions and write the initials of the person (YZ or GP) each sentence describes.
- Ss complete the task. Then play the audio program. Ss listen and check their answers.

Answers

YZ: a, b, d, f, g, m, n
GP: c, e, h, i, j, k, l

- Have Ss put the events in chronological order.
- Play the audio program again. Ss listen and check their answers.

Answers

YZ: f, a, n, m, d, g, b
GP: e, h, i, j, k, l, c

AudioScript

1. Yang Zhifa

About 40 years ago, Yang Zhifa was just an ordinary Chinese farmer. He was living off the land and was very poor. Today he is recognized as the man who discovered a highly important archaeological site, sometimes called the “Eighth Wonder of the World.” What happened?

One morning in March 1974, Zhifa and some other local farmers were looking for water. As they were drilling a well, they hit something hard. They found pieces of pottery and ancient weapons. Immediately, the head of the village reported the news to the local government, and in May 1976, the digging began. To everyone’s surprise, there were over 8,000 soldiers made of terracotta lying underneath his land. The soldiers were over 2,000 years old, and had been buried along with Emperor Qin, who wanted to take an army with him to his next life.

Today Yang Zhifa spends much of his time at the Terracotta Army museum. He sits, poses for pictures, and proudly signs autographs for the millions of tourists who visit from all over the world.

2. Gwyneth Paltrow

You could say that actress Gwyneth Paltrow was born lucky. After all, she is the daughter of two well-known talents. Her mother is an actress, and her father was a writer, producer, and director. But like all people wanting to break into movies, she had to go to drama school and learn how to act. Today, Gwyneth Paltrow is a successful international actress and has even won an Oscar award. So how did it all begin?

According to Ms. Paltrow, her lucky break came when she was 18 years old. She was at a movie theater with her parents. While they were waiting in line to buy some popcorn, she noticed that Steven Spielberg was also in line. She was just about to order when he came over to her and said, “Hey, can I ask you a favor? Would you play Wendy in the movie *Hook*?” “Sure,” she said, and so she got her first movie role.

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_____ (a) was very poor.

_____ (b) poses for pictures and signs autographs.

_____ (c) accepted the offer right away.

_____ (d) found pieces of pottery and ancient weapons.

_____ (e) had to go to drama school and learn how to act.

_____ (f) was an ordinary farmer.

_____ (g) now spends a lot of time in the museum.

_____ (h) had a lucky break at the age of 18.

_____ (i) was at a movie theater when the lucky break happened.

_____ (j) was waiting in line to buy popcorn.

_____ (k) noticed that Steven Spielberg was also in line.

_____ (l) was offered a role in the movie *Hook*.

_____ (m) hit something hard when drilling a well.

_____ (n) was looking for water one morning.