

Unit 9

Things happen

In Unit 9, you learn how to . . .

- use the past continuous for events in progress in the past.
- use *myself, yourself, himself*, etc.
- talk about accidents and things that went wrong.
- react to other people's stories.
- use the expression *I bet . . .*






Lesson A

When things go wrong . . .

Are you having a bad week?

**Sean Davis**

“Actually, yes. I was going to work on the train Monday morning, and I was talking to this woman. I guess I wasn't paying attention, and I missed my stop. I was half an hour late for a meeting with my new boss.”

**Julia Chen**


“Oh, definitely! A friend of mine accidentally deleted all my music files yesterday when she was using my computer. I tried for hours to find them, but nothing worked. I lost everything!”

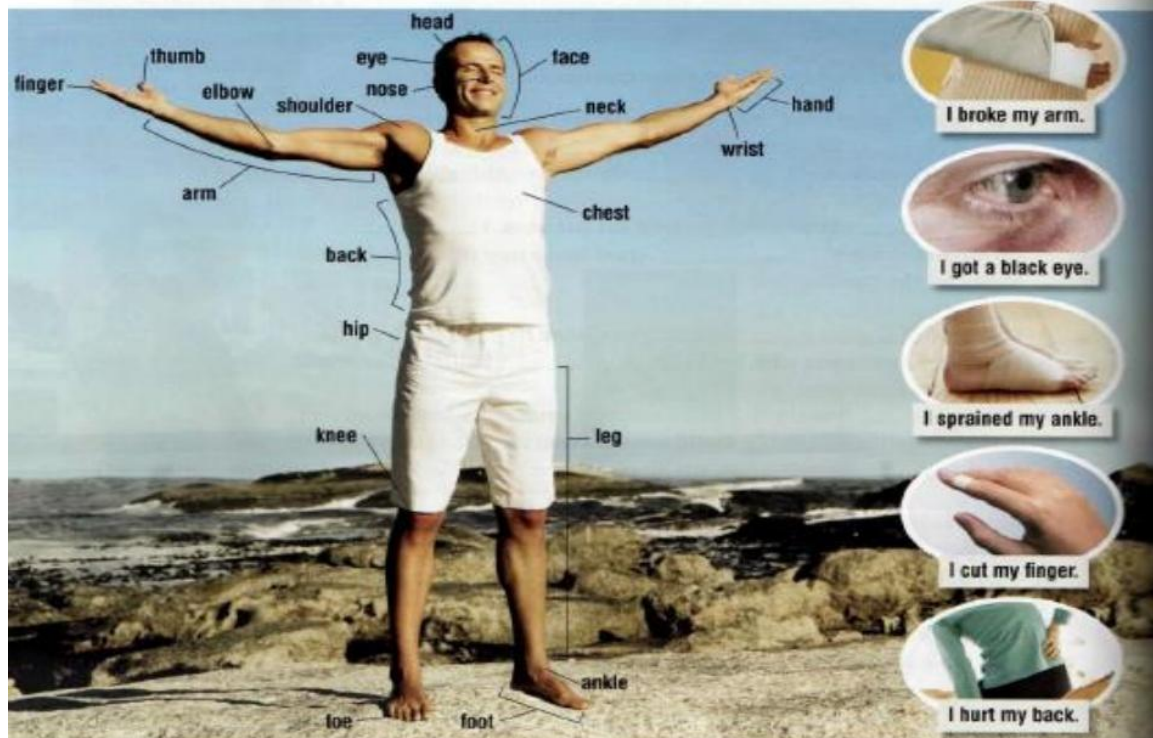
**Roberto Moreno**

“Yeah, kind of. A couple of days ago, a friend and I were trying to look cool in front of some girls at the mall. We weren't looking, and we walked right into a glass door. I was so embarrassed.”



1 Building vocabulary

A  Listen and say the words and sentences. How many of these words and expressions do you already know?

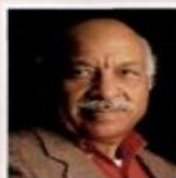


1 Reading

A Brainstorm! Make a list of all the good things that happened to you recently. Tell the class.

I found \$20. An old friend called me. I passed my driver's test.

B Read the newspaper column. What good things happened to these people?



Around Town by Nelson Hunter

Acts of Kindness

A few weeks ago, I was walking to my car in the parking lot, when someone came up to me and said he enjoyed reading my weekly column. "But," he said, "you always write about everyone's bad experiences. Why don't you ask people to talk about their good experiences, too?"

So I asked readers to write in and tell me about all the good things that happened to them recently. I got hundreds of replies. Here are three of them:

I was coming home from a party really late at night, and I missed the last train home. I didn't have enough money for a cab, and I didn't want to walk home in the dark. I was standing outside the train station, and I guess I looked worried because a woman came up and asked me if I needed any help. She offered to share a cab with me and to pay for it! She said she didn't like being by herself at night, either. I was so grateful.

— Abby Walters

When I was shopping at the mall last week, I lost my wallet with all my money and credit cards in it. I spent a long time looking for it with no luck. I was really upset because it had my spare house key and my address in it, too. Anyway, later that day after I got home, my doorbell rang. It was a young man, and he had my wallet. Apparently, he saw it on the ground when he was walking into the mall. He drove all the way to my house to give it to me! I couldn't believe it! I was so lucky!

— Andrea Keane

After class each week, I often go to the local donut shop and get some coffee before I go home. When I was leaving the store last week, the owner gave me a bag of donuts from the day before to take home for free. She said I was a good customer, and she didn't want to throw them out. When I got home, I shared them with my roommates!

— John Jones

So, thank you for all the letters. For next week, I want to hear about any funny stories you have. What funny things happened to you recently?