

Communicative worksheet

Reporting what you heard

1 Ask students to look at the first picture on the story worksheet. Ask:

What do you think the women are talking about?

Elicit that they are gossiping about news in their local town. Then ask students to look at the other pictures and describe what has happened in their own words. Elicit any useful words or phrases (*take a crocodile for a walk, overpriced, rob a bank, make a safe landing, have triplets, see a UFO*).

2 Hand out the Student cards. Ask students to put the words in the correct order to make expressions to report what you heard. Let students check answers in pairs before discussing as a class.

Answers

Student A

- 1 I heard that there has been an accident.
- 2 Someone said that the police had arrived immediately.
- 3 It seems that everybody saw the accident.
- 4 Apparently, the driver was injured.
- 5 They reckon that it must be a mistake.

Student B

- 1 He's not the type to spread gossip.
- 2 It's been blown out of proportion.
- 3 He generally gets his facts right.

4 Take no notice of what she says.

5 I'd take that with a pinch of salt.

3 Ask pairs to choose roles and to prepare expressions that they could use in their conversation.

With a strong class, ask students to improvise the conversation in pairs.

With a weaker class, ask students to work in pairs to prepare and write a conversation before acting out.

4 Ask some pairs to act out their improvised or prepared conversation for the class. To create a task for the class, write the following questions on the board, and ask students to listen and find the answers:

- 1 *What is the latest news in the town?*
- 2 *Which piece of news is the most difficult to believe? Why?*

5 Personalise

Ask students to report any amazing news that they have heard recently. The rest of the class must express belief or disbelief.

6 Writing

Ask students to write a short article for a news website describing the latest news in their town.