

## Reminder

Grammar reference  
pages 166 and 167

When we're telling a story, we often use the past continuous tense to set the scene and describe the background.  
*We were visiting our office in Korea.*

Then we use the past simple to describe the events.  
*One of my colleagues invited me for a meal at his home.*

### Reading: Muddled stories

**1** Here are two stories but they are muddled up. Work in pairs. Student A: Underline the first story about the Korean dinner invitation. Student B: Underline the second story about the Japanese software engineer.

A funny thing happened to me when I was visiting Seoul. I had an interesting experience when I was working on a project with a Japanese software engineer. One of my Korean colleagues invited me to his home for a meal. I was very grateful for the opportunity to see how a Korean family lived and to meet his family. He was a brilliant programmer but sometimes he sent me emails with symbols I didn't understand. His wife was lovely and she served a fantastic meal with all kinds of wonderful dishes. So I asked, 'What do these things mean?' At the end of the evening, I thanked her and said how much I enjoyed her cooking. He explained that when he was joking he wrote happy eyes ^\_^ and when he was sad he wrote crying eyes ;-(. 'Oh, I didn't cook it,' she said, 'it came from the local Chinese restaurant.' The symbols were like our smiley faces :-) and :-(. So it just goes to show how different things can be. In the west, we generally look at people's mouths to see if they're smiling. So it just goes to show that people are the same the world over. But in Japan, people look at their eyes. They all appreciate a good Chinese takeaway.

**2** Check your answers with your partner. Student A: Read the first story. Student B: Listen. Does it make sense? Then Student B: Read the second story. Student A: Listen. Does it make sense?


**3** Answer these questions about the stories.

- 1 In the first story, what was the writer thankful for and why?
- 2 In the second story, what didn't the writer understand and why?
- 3 What did the first writer learn about the meal?
- 4 What did the second writer learn about Japanese symbols?
- 5 What conclusion did the first writer draw?
- 6 What conclusion did the second writer draw?

### Listening: What's the ending?

**4**  **2.25** Listen to another story. How do you think it will end?



**5**  Listen again and answer these questions.

- 1 Why couldn't the boys ring the doorbell?
- 2 What did the old lady think the boys were trying to do?
- 3 What were they really doing?

**6** Write a possible ending for the story.

So it just goes to show that \_\_\_\_\_