



This page is for you, the teacher, to refer to, although you could write or project the sections below onto the board, or give them out to the students in the form of a handout.

This page is dedicated to setting the scene prior to giving the actual story to the students. You could go over the 6 items of vocabulary and have the students talk about one or more of the lead-in questions before they read or listen to the anecdote. Check out the Suggested General Approach for more ideas on how to use this and other activities.

7

A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY HOME FROM WORK

One summer a young man takes a job he wouldn't normally consider. His experiences while learning to be a door-to-door salesman lead him along an interesting journey and to a very unexpected end.

SOME VOCAB

1) to be blurry / a blur

With the rain on my glasses, everything appears blurry.

There was so much happening and so fast, that last weekend is just a blur to me now.

2) to be stuck with st/sb

I was stuck with the job of cleaning the bathroom.

We were stuck with the people who never played before. We had no chance of winning with them on our team.

3) a motley crew

They were a real motley crew. Everybody had different ideas and abilities, but it wasn't an advantage. They didn't get along and started doing some very strange things.

4) to be gullible

I used to be very gullible when I was younger, but now it's pretty difficult to fool me. Maybe I'm too cynical now.

5) a spiel

I hate it when the HR people begin the meeting. They always go into a long spiel about how we can work better for the company.

6) the classifieds / classified ads

I have never found a good job in the classifieds, but it's one place to look.

LEAD-IN QUESTIONS

1) What do you dislike about door-to-door salespeople?

2) What kind of personality would be best for a successful door-to-door salesperson?

3) If circumstances brought you to a situation where you had to work as one (a door-to-door salesperson), what difficulties would you find with the work and how would you try to overcome them?