

## Storytelling grid

This is an example of a story grid and accompanying story for modelling storytelling. The story should only be used as a guide, and you should tell the story in your own words, as you will need to adapt the language in the story according to the level of your learners.

<b>Mike</b>	<b>birthday party</b>	<b>sorry</b>	<b>late</b>
<b>hospital</b>	<b>motorcycle</b>	<b>angry</b>	<b>Mary</b>
<b>jealous</b>	<b>upset</b>	<b>Leslie</b>	<b>accident</b>

It was a special night for **Mary**. It was her 18th birthday and she was having a big **birthday party** in her house. All her friends from school were there and were having a great time. That was, everyone except for Mary, who was trying to look like she was having a great time, but really she was very **upset**. Everyone from school was there except her boyfriend **Mike** and her classmate **Leslie**, who also happened to be Mike's ex-girlfriend, and Mary couldn't help but wonder if they were together. She was secretly still very **jealous** of Leslie.

'Why hasn't Mike called to say he is **sorry** that he is **late** and that he is on his way?' thought Mary. Where was Mike and what was he doing? And where was Leslie and what was she doing? Mary was starting to get **angry** now. 'How dare Mike stand me up on my 18th birthday?' thought Mary. 'How horrible can you get?' Just then the phone rang. 'Ahh, finally it's Mike calling to apologise and say he is on his way,' thought Mary, and she rushed to answer the phone. But it wasn't Mike who answered, it was Leslie.

'Hi, Mary, Leslie here. I'm calling about Mike ...' As soon as she heard Leslie say she was calling about Mike, Mary exploded with jealousy. 'Leslie!' she shouted back. 'How could you be so mean as to steal Mike from me on my birthday?' Mary burst into tears and hung up the phone. She then ran upstairs into her bedroom and closed the door.

The phone rang again. This time Mary's mum answered it. Five minutes later Mary's mum went upstairs and knocked on Mary's door. Mary's mum explained to Mary what had happened. On the way to the party Leslie had seen a **motorcycle** skid on oil on the road and crash into a lamppost. Luckily, the motorcyclist was OK, but he had some cuts on his head and needed to have an X-ray to check that he hadn't injured his head. The motorcyclist had turned out to be Mike, and Leslie had taken him to the **hospital** in her car. Leslie had tried to call from the hospital to tell Mary what had happened but the phone in the waiting area had been busy. Leslie had just been about to tell Mary that Mike had had an **accident** when Mary hung the phone up on her.

Mary felt pretty stupid. Mike had been getting his head X-rayed and there she was crying in her room thinking he was cheating on her with Leslie. Mary realised that she was the one who was going to have to do all the apologising when they arrived, even if it was her birthday!

Other example story grids:

<b>jewels</b>	<b>love</b>	<b>Brazil</b>	<b>alarm</b>
<b>John</b>	<b>Angela</b>	<b>hate</b>	<b>burglary</b>
<b>Paula</b>	<b>escape</b>	<b>plane tickets</b>	<b>mansion</b>
<b>yacht</b>	<b>party</b>	<b>New York</b>	<b>police</b>

<b>jungle</b>	<b>plane</b>	<b>Amazon</b>	<b>crash</b>
<b>Tony</b>	<b>survival</b>	<b>tigers</b>	<b>snakes</b>
<b>Jayne</b>	<b>lost</b>	<b>knife</b>	<b>water</b>
<b>criminal</b>	<b>Ben</b>	<b>biologist</b>	<b>rescue</b>