



DVD PREVIEW

1 Read about a BBC comedy. Why is this week supposed to be special for Howard? What's the problem?

BBC My Worst Week

The week before a wedding can be a difficult time, but for publisher Howard Steele, marrying the beautiful Mel, it becomes a complete nightmare. Everything that can possibly go wrong does go wrong, even though Howard tries desperately to do the right thing. During the week, Howard accidentally kills his in-laws' dog, puts Mel's granny in hospital, and loses the wedding ring (which has been in the family for many generations) twice. It's not a good start, and what should have been a very special week soon turns into the worst week of his life.



▶ DVD VIEW

2 Watch the DVD then number the events in the correct order.

- Mel calls Howard in his office. _____
- Eve tries to take the ring off using soap in the bathroom. _____
- Howard arrives in his office and shows his secretary, Eve, the ring. _____
- Mel reminds Howard to collect the ring. _____
- The ring gets stuck. _____
- Eve bursts into tears, so Howard lets her try the ring on. _____

3A Who says this: Howard (H), Eve (E) or Mel (M)?

- 'Don't forget the ring.'
- 'It's been in Mel's family for 150 years. They have this rather charming tradition where they (uh) pass it down from generation to generation.'
- 'I always wanted a fairy-tale wedding of my own.'
- 'Try it on. See what it feels like.'
- 'When the vicar asks me to put the ring on my fiancée's finger, it would be very nice if my secretary was not attached.'
- 'No, really – it's stuck.'
- 'I'll get a plumber.'

B Watch the DVD again to check.

4A Complete the sentences about how the characters felt.

- Mel is worried about ...
- Eve is impressed when she sees ...
- Eve gets upset about ...
- Howard is annoyed when ...
- Eve is anxious about ...
- Howard is shocked when ...

B Compare your ideas with another student.

speakout memorable moments

5A ▶ 6.8 Listen to a man talking about a special weekend. Which of the following statements is not true?

- His brother organised a surprise weekend away.
- They went on a boat trip to a lighthouse, and slept there.
- They went shopping with his brother's money.
- They went to the theatre and then ate an expensive five-course meal.

B Listen again and tick the key phrases you hear.

keyphrases

One of the most memorable moments/events in my life was ...

The happiest moment of my life was when ...

It all started one day when ...

I was so embarrassed/delighted/shocked/terrified when ...

I had absolutely no idea.

The funniest thing that ever happened to me was ...

The next thing/The next morning ...

That weekend/day was one of my happiest memories.

C Choose one of the following questions. Plan your answer using some of the key phrases.

- What are your strongest memories of your childhood?
- Have you ever done anything you regret?
- What's the most embarrassing/funniest/scariest thing that has ever happened to you?
- What do you remember about the house you lived in as a child?
- Can you remember a time when you felt very proud?
- What is your happiest memory?

D Work in groups and tell your stories.

writeback a website entry

6A Read the website entry. What kind of things do people write about on this website? What was special about Ross's car journey?

100 lives: real life, real people, real experiences

Join people from around the world who want to share their stories and experiences. Read true personal stories, chat and get advice from the group.

Q: What's your happiest memory?

One of my happiest memories is of a car journey I took with some friends from Canada down to California nearly fifteen years ago. It was a clear night with a full moon, and as we drove we listened to music, and talked. The roads were empty, and there was a wonderful sense of freedom and adventure. We were driving away from our families and everything we knew so well. We drove with the windows open and I can remember the warmth of the wind on my face, and the sound of the music playing out to the open skies. Even now, when I hear any of the songs on that album, it takes me straight back to that journey, and that feeling. I hope it never goes away.

Ross, Calgary

B Choose another question from Exercise 5C and write your story (150–200 words). Use the website entry above and the key phrases to help.

