



### Before you speak

#### Check you know:

'an ice-breaker'                      'I couldn't believe my eyes'                      to surprise someone  
'out of the corner of my eye'      'out of the blue'                                      to anticipate something  
'as it turned out, ... / it turned out that...'

#### Complete the story of a disastrous blind date:

In preparation for my blind date last week, I had decided to wear...

As an ice-breaker, I had bought my date...

We had arranged to meet in my favourite restaurant....

When I arrived, I couldn't believe my eyes. My date was wearing...

After we had sat down, my date surprised me again by ordering ...

Then, out of the blue, my date got up and...

Out of the corner of my eye, I noticed that the waiter was...

Nobody could have anticipated what happened next, but as it turned out, it was the perfect end to the evening...

#### Practise telling your story.

First tell it alone. Record yourself on your mobile phone. Listen back, can you improve on what you said? Do you need to work on your pronunciation?

Now find a study partner or friend to tell your story to. Ask for feedback. Can they suggest any improvements?

Finally, tell your story in a natural situation – maybe over coffee with a friend. Think about how it went. What part did you tell particularly well?