

An awful, terrible, embarrassing, really bad day!

Action video note

Instruct Ss to make their own video about a really bad day.

Write the script

- **Preview the activity:** Tell Ss they will make a video about a really bad day or an embarrassing experience in the past. Explain that they can talk about an event that really happened to them, an exaggerated one, or a made-up one. If helpful, elicit story ideas from the class.
- **Option:** If Ss prefer, have them work in pairs or small groups. In this case, they will create a story to act out. Alternatively, if Ss are shy or have a difficult time thinking of a bad day or an embarrassing event, allow them to retell and act out someone else's story – like something that happened to a friend or a scene from a book or movie.
- **Write the script:** Go over the sample script below with the class. Review the use of past-continuous versus simple-past verbs. Point out the use of sentence adverbs, too. Then have Ss write their scripts.

Sample script

I had a really embarrassing morning a few weeks ago. First of all, I woke up late – very late. I thought I was going to miss class, and I had a very important test that morning. So, I rushed out of bed, changed, grabbed my book bag, and ran out the door. Fortunately, I made it to class just as my teacher was passing out the test. Unfortunately, because I had to run to class, I was breathing very heavily during the first few minutes of the test. Some of my classmates turned around and gave me dirty looks because I was distracting them. When they turned to look at me, I realized that, in my rush, I put on the same exact clothes as the day before!

- **Check the script:** Have Ss rehearse their scripts. Go around the room and give help as needed.

Make the video

- **Plan the video:** Tell Ss to plan where and how they will make their videos. Remind Ss that they can talk to the camera, show pictures, or act out the events.
- **Option:** If Ss are working in groups, make sure they all take turns speaking.
- **Make the video:** Have Ss make their videos.
- **Option:** If Ss enjoy working with video, they can edit their videos and add any music or graphics they like.

Share the video

- Ss share their videos with the class.
- **Option:** Have a group or class discussion about the videos.