

4 I didn’t do it!

Aim	To understand a jigsaw reading text.
Preparation	Copy the handouts on pages 19 and 21 – one copy per student. If required, cut text in Activity A into four sections.

Introduction (5 minutes)

Write these words on the board:
Today is a terrible day for me.
Ask:
Why do you think it is a terrible day for this person?
Elicit students’ suggestions.

Presentation (20 minutes)

Activity A Students have to put sections a, b, c, d, into the right order to tell a story. You can do the activity in this way:
Students work in groups of four. Cut the story in Activity A into four sections, a, b, c, d. Give each member of a group one of the four sections. Each student reads his/her section. S/he must not show it to the other students. Then, as a group, students have to put the story together. They do this by telling each other about their section. They can read it to the rest of the group if they wish. Students use their dictionaries but don’t try to understand every word.
Alternatively, students can do the activity in pairs. In this case, give one student sections a and d. Give the other student sections b and c. If you don’t wish to cut the story up, students can simply look at Activity A and do it from the page, but the group activity is probably the most useful, as students have to communicate with each other. Check answers orally, asking students to explain how they got to the answer. (In each text we are told the number of years the writer has been in prison.) Try not to elicit a lot of detail from students as the following activities deal with this.

The correct order is: c, b, d, a. When the story begins (text c), the writer (Peter) has been in prison for five years. This is because, when Peter’s father died (more than five years ago), he (the father) gave all his money to Peter’s brother John. John was murdered and the police thought Peter killed him because he wanted the money. So Peter was put in prison. However, his sister always believed in Peter (text b). In text d we learn that a dying man, Mike Rippon, has confessed to killing John. In text a, Peter is released from prison.

Practice (25 minutes)

Activities B and C In pairs, students read the texts in the correct order and answer the questions. Check answers orally, explaining where necessary.

(continued on page 20)

Key

- A The correct order is: c, b, d, a
- B 1 Peter
2 He is in prison.
3 He is at his sister’s home.
4 He is inside.
5 Angry but happy to be out. Strange.
- C 1e 2b 3d 4c 5a

(continued on page 20)



4 I didn't do it!

A Put the text in the right order.

a

Today I walked out of those doors into the sunlight. There were a lot of journalists. 'How do you feel?' they asked.

'Angry about those six and a half years. But happy to be out,' I answered. My sister was there. She took me back to her home and gave me a good meal.

All my old friends came. Some were very sorry. 'We thought you did it. We were wrong, Peter,' they said. But others said, 'We always believed in you.'

It is strange to be here, and look out onto a beautiful garden again. I can walk out into it if I want. I'm free.

b

Six years now. My sister came to see me this morning. She has been so good to me. She doesn't believe I killed John. 'I know you,' she said. 'You loved John. He was your brother! You didn't kill him! You didn't want his money.'

'I did,' I said. 'I wanted his money. When dad died and gave all his money to John, I was really angry! But kill my brother? No.'

She left and they took me outside for some exercise. One of the others came to talk to me.

'You know,' he said, 'I killed a man. But I'm beginning to believe you. I don't think you did.'

Today is a terrible day for me. They brought me here for the first time exactly five years ago. I remember it so well. The door closed behind me. They took my clothes, my money. They took my name and gave me a number. 'I didn't do it!' I told them. 'I didn't kill him!' They laughed and locked the door. The men inside laughed too. 'We all say that,' they said. 'No one's done anything wrong in here!'

I can't believe it! But it's true! They've found my brother's killer! His name is Mike Rippon. He's told the police he killed my brother all those years ago! My lawyer came to see me again this afternoon. 'Why did Rippon tell them?' I asked. 'It's more than six years now.'

'Rippon's very ill,' my lawyer answered. 'He's dying. He knows another man is in prison because of him. He wants to die a good man.' Soon I will be free.

c

d

B Work in pairs. Answer these questions.

- 1 What is the writer's name?
- 2 Where is the writer in texts b, c, and d?
- 3 Where is the writer in text a?
- 4 Is the writer inside or outside at the end of the story?
- 5 How does the writer feel when he is free?

C Work in pairs. Match the people (1–5) with the sentences (a–e).

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| 1 John | a This person is dying. |
| 2 the writer's lawyer | b This person told the writer about Mike Rippon. |
| 3 the writer's sister | c This person was in prison for six and a half years. |
| 4 Peter | d This person took Peter home and gave him a good meal. |
| 5 Mike Rippon | e This person was Peter's brother. |

Teacher’s notes

Activities D and E Students work in pairs. Check answers orally, explaining where necessary.

Omit Activities C, D and E if lack of time. Instead, simply elicit the story from students. Write new words up on the board.

Activity F In pairs, students complete the sentences, then choose one of the conversations and act it out. Listen to some students and correct major errors.

Conclusion (5 minutes)

In one or two sentences, students explain orally why Peter was in prison. **Omit if lack of time.**

Homework

Students can do the conclusion activity as a written homework. They could also do any other omitted activities.

Key

- D** 1 The police believed the writer killed *John*.
2 When he died, Peter’s father gave all his money to *John*.
3 The police believed Peter killed his *brother* because he wanted *his* money.
4 Mike Rippon told *the police* that he killed John.
5 Peter’s sister *did not believe* that Peter was a killer.
6 Peter was in prison for *six and a half* years.
- E** 1 a lawyer
2 the police
3 a journalist
4 a prisoner

F a 1 brother 2 kill 3 money 4 wanted 5 died
6 angry 7 go/leave
b 1 tell 2 years 3 dying 4 prison 5 man 6 free



4 I didn't do it! (continued)

D Work in pairs. Correct the mistakes in these sentences.

- 1 The police believed the writer killed Mike Rippon.
- 2 When he died, Peter's father gave all his money to Peter.
- 3 The police believed Peter killed his sister because he wanted her money.
- 4 Mike Rippon told Peter that he killed John.
- 5 Peter's sister believed that Peter was a killer.
- 6 Peter was in prison for five years.

E Work in pairs. Match the words with the sentences.

a prisoner a journalist the police a lawyer

- 1 If the police think you killed someone, this person can help you.
- 2 These people try to find killers and put them in prison.
- 3 This person writes for newspapers.
- 4 This person is not free.

F Work in pairs. Complete these conversations. Try not to look at the text. Then look at the text and check your answers. Then choose one conversation and act it out.

a *Peter's sister:* I know you. You loved John. He was your (1)_____.
You didn't (2)_____ him. You didn't want his
(3)_____.

Peter: I did. I (4)_____ his money. When dad
(5)_____ and gave all his money to John, I was
really (6)_____. But kill my brother? No.

Peter's sister: I know that. Well, I must (7)_____ now. I'll come
again soon.

b *Peter:* Why did Rippon (1)_____ them? It's more than six
(2)_____ now.

Lawyer: Rippon's very ill. He's (3)_____. He knows another
man is in (4)_____ because of him. He wants to die
a good (5)_____.

Peter: So when will I be (6)_____?

Lawyer: Very soon.