



# English **Connect** Reader



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# Chapter

# 1



**Work in pairs and discuss the following questions.**

- What do you think happened to the woman in the picture?
- Have you experienced an unexpected situation? Explain.

Social Learning  
Environment:

# Family and community

**Social Practice:** Interpret and provide descriptions of unexpected situations in a conversation.

**Communicative Activity:** Exchanges associated with information of oneself and that of others.



Life brings unexpected situations at us all the time, such as missing a school project or party. Sometimes these events can be much more serious and quite distressing, such as a broken bone or losing a pet.

During these difficult times, trust in your ability to think creatively and solve problems. **Rely on** positive emotions to help your brain generate more creative solutions to problems. Let's see how these junior high students handle unexpected situations in their daily lives.



Hey, how was your weekend?

Well... not good. Something terrible happened.

rely on: (v) to trust something.

**Rico:** Seriously? What happened?

**David:** On Saturday morning, I took a walk with my dog

Chunk, but then I decided to buy something to eat.

I couldn't take Chunk inside the cafeteria, so I **leashed**

him outside and went in to order my food. As I was waiting, someone said, "Hey, is that your dog out there?"

He just ran off." I looked outside and my dog was gone!

**Rico:** Oh, no! So what did you do?

**David:** I ran outside and started chasing my dog. But he

was a block away, running and terrified. I called out

his name many

times but he just

disappeared at the

end of the street.

**Rico:** That's too bad!



**leash:** (v) to hold or fasten something in a place

**David:** Yes, I know. I went back home to see if he was there, but he wasn't.

**Rico:** So what did you do next?

**David:** I started making posters with his picture, his name, and my phone number. I posted some near the place where I last saw him.

**Rico:** Have you heard anything yet?

**David:** No, nothing... I feel very sad. I hope he's okay.

**Rico:** Don't worry, we can make flyers offering a **reward** for any information and distribute them in school or around the neighborhood. We can do it on the social media too!!!

**David:** That's a good idea! Thanks a lot for your help.

**Rico:** No problem. We'll find Chunk.



**reward:** (n) a prize you receive because of something you do.





**Dora:** On Saturday night my band and I planned to play in a party at Rachel's house, but it all went wrong.

**Julie:** I'm sorry, but I didn't catch what you said.

**Dora:** I said it all went wrong. It was heavily raining, so I asked my mom to take me to the party. However, on our way there was a huge hole on the road and my mom couldn't avoid it. The car fell in it and we got a **flat tire**.

**Julie:** Oh, no...what did you do?

**Dora:** We parked safely away from traffic and realized we didn't have a spare tire, so we had to wait for roadside assistance.

**flat tire:** (n) when a tire does not have any air in it.

**Julie:** So, did you call 911?

**Dora:** Exactly! A local **towing** company provided us an emergency tire-change service. I did arrive to the party, but unfortunately I was two hours late!

**Julie:** And what happened? Were people at the party upset?

**Dora:** Yes, and my bandmates too!!! Then I had to explain what happened to Rachel because she was very disappointed. Finally, everybody understood it wasn't my fault and we played for an hour, but I couldn't stay because my mother was waiting for me outside.

**Julie:** Well, it's not too bad! Take a taxi next time! Hahaha.

**Dora:** You bet.



**tow:** (v) to pull a vehicle by fixing it to the back of another vehicle.





**Sonia:** Hi, Matt, did you prepare the information for the presentation?

**Matt:** The presentation about the Mayan culture? Was it for today?

**Sonia:** It is for today. Mr. Flores said last Friday that we had to give our presentation today. He told us “Have everything ready for Monday morning.” Then, I asked you if you could prepare the information at home and you said, “Yes, Sonia. Don’t worry. I’ll prepare it.” Right, Matt? Oh... What happened to your **knee**?

**Matt:** Err... well... I injured my knee during the soccer match.

**Sonia:** Sorry, I didn’t know. Did you go to the doctor?

**knee:** (n) the part in the middle of your leg, where it bends.

**Matt:** There was no need, the medical assistants

**wrapped** my knee, but I had to stay in bed for the rest of the weekend. I'm sorry I didn't tell you and I forgot about the presentation.

**Sonia:** Oh, I see. Don't worry, let's try to fix this.

**Matt:** What do you suggest?

**Sonia:** Let's talk with Mr. Flores about your accident and ask him for more time to finish the presentation.

**Matt:** Good idea! We can work at my house after school.

**Sonia:** Sure! Let's do it!



**wrap:** (v) to cover something by putting cloth around it

So, how did they deal with unexpected situations?

First, it's important to say that they didn't react impulsively or with fear. They made a pause to reflect and ask for help. In such moments, you must remember that other people have gone through something similar. Talking to people who have been in similar situations can help you feel understood. **Seek** for your family and friend's advice, their support, and their help during tough times. You will see things from a different perspective and you might discover other strategies you hadn't considered before.

Finally, remember that unexpected situations will continue to happen. Surely, the most important matter is to learn how to accept anything you can't control, gain experience, keep moving forward, and, of course, continue to grow.

**seek:** (v) to ask for something.