

Before You Read

An Accident

Reading SkillMaking and Checking
Predictions

When you read, you can often predict what will come next. While you read, you also check to see if your predictions were correct. Good readers learn to make and check their predictions.

A Look at the title of the passage on the next page and at the photos. What do you predict this passage is about? Complete the sentence:

- 1 Maybe this passage is about some men who _____ .
 - a tell stories about accidents
 - b were trapped underground
 - c live in a very strange place
- 2 Look at the pictures on the next page. What do the pictures tell you about the story?

B Discuss your answers with a partner.

A Read paragraph 1 in the passage on the next page. Then stop and answer the questions below.

- 1 On August 5th, what happened to the 33 men? _____

- 2 Why were the men underground? _____

- 3 What do you think will happen next? _____

B Now read paragraph 2 in the passage on the next page. Then stop and answer the questions below.

- 1 Was your prediction in **A** correct? Yes No
- 2 How did rescue workers know the miners were alive? _____

- 3 What do you predict will happen next? _____

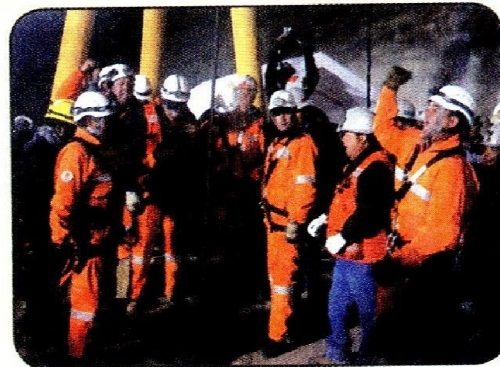
C Now read paragraph 3 in the passage on the next page. Then stop and answer the questions below.

- 1 Was your prediction in **B** correct? Yes No
- 2 How do you think this story ends? _____

D Now read the last paragraphs of the passage. Were your predictions correct? Read the whole passage again. Then answer the questions on page 152.

Alive to Tell Their Tale!¹

1 On August 5, 2010, an accident **trapped** 33 men 700 meters underground. The men worked for a copper and gold mine near Copiapó, Chile. At first, no one knew if the miners had lived through the **accident**.



2 Then, on the morning of August 22, **rescue** workers made a hole deep enough to reach the miners. The men wrote notes and sent them up. The miners had **survived** by eating only 10 small bits of food at a time and drinking a little milk once a day. (The mine kept some food and drinks underground in case of an emergency.) They had used their **tools** to dig for water. They had used the batteries from machines to keep some lights on.



Once the miners were found, the rescue workers passed them food, water, books, and letters from their families. Even though the miners had been found, the rescuers had to work hard to get them out. The rescuers needed a powerful drill to dig deep into the ground. It took 52 more days to save the men.

4 20 workers were able to save the men. One by one the miners were brought up in a specially built **elevator**. They were weak, so the workers were very careful. Family members, 25 friends, and people around the world cheered and **celebrated**. Church bells rang throughout Chile.



5 In all, the miners spent 69 **terrifying** days underground. "We had strength, . . . we wanted to fight for our families, and that was the greatest thing." said Luis Urzua, the 30 supervisor.² He was the last miner to be saved.

¹ A **tale** is a story.

² A **supervisor** is a manager or group leader who makes sure workers are working correctly.

Reading Comprehension

Check Your Understanding

A Choose the correct answers.

- Where were the men trapped?
 - in an elevator
 - in a mine
 - in their office
- Which of these does the passage NOT say the men did to survive?
 - dug for water
 - drank milk
 - made a fire
- How were the men brought out of the mine?
 - in a special elevator
 - they climbed up a wide tunnel
 - by a very long ladder
- How many days did the men spend in the mine?
 - 22
 - 52
 - 69

B Put the events of the Chilean miners' story in order from 1 to 7. Then retell their story to a partner.

- 1 An accident trapped the miners.
- ___ The men were brought out of the mine.
- ___ The workers received letters from their families.
- ___ The miners sent rescue workers a note asking for help.
- ___ The workers dug for 52 days to save the miners.
- ___ Rescue workers reached the miners.
- ___ Rescue workers put the special elevator in the mine.

Critical Thinking

- What do you think was the scariest part of the miners' story?
- What do you think the miners did first when they got home?

Vocabulary Comprehension

Words in Context

A In each sentence, circle the best answer. The words in blue are from the passage.

- I usually take the **elevator** to my office on the _____ floor.
 - first
 - ninth
- Tommy didn't mean to _____. It was an **accident**.
 - break the window
 - fix the window
- You will need some **tools** if you are going to _____.
 - build a table
 - eat dinner
- Polar bears **survive** the winter in Antarctica by _____.
 - playing in the snow
 - eating fish

Real Life Skill

Identifying Types of Books

In bookstores, books are grouped together by type. For example, books about countries and vacations are usually in the *travel section* of a bookstore. Knowing a book's type can help you find it faster.

A Match each type of book with its description.

- | | | | | |
|---|------------------|-------|---|---|
| 1 | comedy | _____ | a | scary stories |
| 2 | horror | _____ | b | stories about real people and events |
| 3 | science fiction | _____ | c | stories about the future, travel in space, etc. |
| 4 | mystery/thriller | _____ | d | amusing stories |
| 5 | nonfiction | _____ | e | an important work of writing |
| 6 | literature | _____ | f | a story where you try to guess the ending |

B Read the book titles and descriptions. What type of book is each one? Write the number from A in the chart. Some books are more than one type.

Book	Type of Book
The Time Machine <i>H. G. Wells</i> A man creates a machine and travels to the future. This book is read in many high school English classes.	3, 6
Angela's Ashes <i>Frank McCourt</i> The true story of a boy who grew up poor in Ireland. The story won a number of prizes.	
The Diary of a Young Girl <i>Anne Frank</i> The diary Anne Frank kept while hiding from the Nazis in the 1940s	
The Da Vinci Code <i>Dan Brown</i> A Frenchwoman and an American man try to find a killer. They try exciting situation the adventure.	
Twilight <i>Stephenie Meyer</i> A story about a human girl who is fond of a vampire boy.	
Life of Pi <i>Yann Martel</i> A young boy goes from India to North America by ship. The ship sinks, and the boy must share a small boat with a tiger. This book won a writing prize in 2002.	

What do you think?

- Which story in this unit was more interesting to you? Why?
- Both stories in this unit were about scary events. Do you know any scary stories? Tell the story to your partner.