Shirley Valentine was a woman of 42 from Liverpool, in England.

One summer, she went on holiday to Greece with a friend, Jane.

They stayed in a hotel near the beach and the manager of this hotel was a man called Costas.

Shirley went to the hotel bar one evening and started talking to Costas.

After a while he said, ‘Would you like to go for a ride in my brother’s boat tomorrow?’

She thought he was nice so she went with him the next day and enjoyed the boat trip very much.

After that, she went out with him every day; they swam, sunbathed and visited the sights of Greece.

At the end of her holiday, Shirley went to the airport but when she thought of Liverpool, she decided not to go home.

She ran out of the airport and went back to the hotel where she saw Costas in the bar with a woman.

She heard him say, ‘Would you like to go for a ride in my brother’s boat?’

When Costas saw Shirley, he was shocked, but Shirley smiled and asked him for a job in his hotel.

She wasn’t in love with Costas – she was in love with Greece.
NOTE: This activity can follow on from Worksheet 6a or can be done on its own.

ACTIVITY
Groupwork: speaking, reading, writing

AIM
To put a story in the correct order by saying and listening to sentences. To write the story down in a group dictation.

GRAMMAR AND FUNCTIONS
Past simple regular and irregular verbs

VOCABULARY
Travel and holidays

PREPARATION
Make one copy of the worksheet for each group of 12 students. Cut out the sentences as indicated.
Make one copy of the complete story on overhead projector transparency (or one copy between three students if overhead projector facilities are not available).

TIME
45 minutes

PROCEDURE
1 Tell the students that they are going to read a story about an English woman called Shirley Valentine, but that the story is in 12 parts which aren't in order. They will have to put the sentences of the story in the correct order.

2 Divide the students into groups of 12 and give each group a set of cut up sentences, shuffled into random order. If the number of students in the class is not an exact multiple of 12, give one part of the story to a pair of students.

3 In their groups, each student takes one part of the story. If you have fewer than 12 students in the class or group distribute the parts yourself and give some students two consecutive parts of the story. If you have students of mixed abilities give shorter sentences to less confident students.

4 Tell the students that they are responsible for their own sentence for the rest of the activity.

5 Ask the students to read their own sentence and make sure they understand it.

6 Ask the students to practise saying their own sentence aloud and to memorise it. Go round helping them individually with pronunciation problems.

7 When the students have memorised their own sentence, tell them to stand up in their groups and to form a line in the order of the story by saying their sentences aloud. This stage of the activity may seem rather chaotic at first, but try not to intervene as one of the aims of this activity is for the students to repeat their sentence several times and listen to the other students' sentences carefully.

8 When the story is in the correct order, ask the students to sit down in their groups and get ready to write the story.

9 Explain that each student is going to write the whole story. Each student dictates their own sentence to the rest of the group and answers questions about the spelling and punctuation of their sentence.

10 Ask the student with the first line to read it out for the rest of the group to write down. The students then take it in turns to read out their sentences in order for the rest of the group to write down.

11 When everybody has written down the complete story, give out copies of the complete worksheet (or display it on the overhead projector) so that the students can correct their own work.