

How to write an anecdote

1 Reading

Read the story. Has anything similar ever happened to you or someone you know?

2 Paragraphs

Indicate where you can find the following information.

1. What his dad tried to do to help = paragraph
2. How they got home in the end = paragraph
3. Why he couldn't get on the plane = paragraph

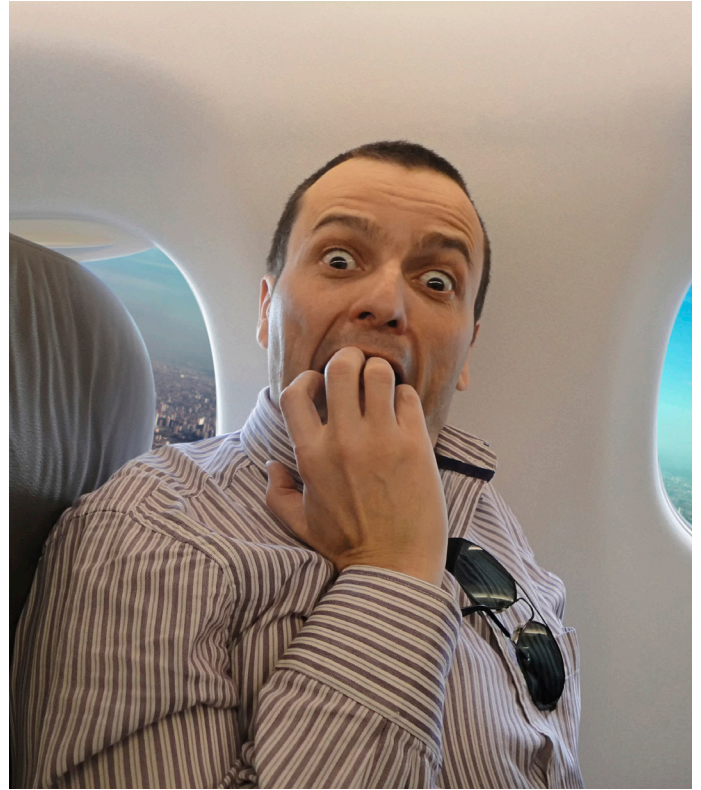
3 Useful words & expressions

Complete the sentences with the correct words.

1. ...just as he was _____ to board the plane, he started feeling extremely nervous.
2. The really big _____ was that we're from Brazil.
3. In the _____, dad and Paolo both had go back to Brazil by ship.

4 Writing task

Write an anecdote. Use this text as a model for your writing. Divide it into different paragraphs and include some background information, what the problem was, how it was dealt with and what happened in the end.



Give some background information to the story. Start with a dramatic first sentence.

Flying problems!

My brother Paolo once found himself trapped in England, with no way of getting out. He was 17-years-old at the time and he was there to do a language course for three weeks in Bournemouth. He stayed with a really nice family, leant a lot of English, and had a great time with his new friends from all over the world.

However, on the day he had to fly back, he developed this mysterious flying phobia. He went to the airport and checked in, but just as he was about to board the plane, he started feeling extremely nervous. He got onto the plane, but then had a panic attack and had to be taken off. He tried to get on the next plane, but the same thing happened.

The really big problem was that we're from Brazil. Unable to get home, he called my parents. Dad was worried, so he got on the first flight to England. Once there, he bought tickets for both of them and tried to get Paolo on the return flight. But it was no good. So, they both checked into a hotel and dad organised some hypnosis sessions to try and cure Paolo's phobia, but that didn't work either.

In the end, dad and Paolo both had go back to Brazil by ship. It took them about 20 days; and since the, my brother hasn't left the country!

Introduce a problem that needs to be solved. Use the past tense.

Show how the protagonists tried to deal with the problem.

Explain what happened in the end.