



Was he causing trouble?

In this unit we will ...

- talk about bad behavior
- buy souvenirs
- report a crime at the police station
- describe situations to add context to a text

GOSSIP!

Everybody's talking about it!



Do you know what gossiping is? What's the difference between gossiping about someone and talking about them? Imagine you hear these two conversations after class—which is gossip?



- 1
- Ryder Did you see Luis this morning?
- Gabrielle No, why?
- Ryder He was standing outside the principal's office.
- Gabrielle He's always threatening people and fighting. What did he do this time?
- Ryder I don't know. I guess he cut school again.
- Gabrielle Yeah, you might be right. Last week, my mom saw him downtown when she was buying lunch.
- Ryder Really? Was he causing trouble?
- Gabrielle No, he wasn't. He wasn't doing anything.
- Ryder Yeah, but I heard he hangs around with some bad people.
- Gabrielle Yeah, I bet they were planning to go shoplifting.
- Ryder Yeah, probably!

- 2
- Jade Hey, wait up! I've just seen Luis outside the principal's office. He didn't look happy.
- Antonio Oh no! What do you think has happened?
- Jade Well, he hasn't been at school this week. And on Wednesday morning, I saw him downtown while I was walking to the dentist with my mom.
- Antonio What was he doing? Was he alone?
- Jade He was walking along the street with some guys.
- Antonio Oh no, really? I just worry that if he gets in trouble again, they'll expel him.
- Jade Maybe I should talk to him later.
- Antonio Yeah, that's a good idea.

Did you know?

Eighty percent of people's conversations are gossip! Statistics show that boys spend more time gossiping than girls!

1 054 Read and listen to the article. Answer the questions.

Who is gossiping about Luis?

Who is showing concern for their friend?

Link to life Do you think that gossiping is wrong, or is it just fun?

Check it out!

Find these words and phrases and check their meaning.

wait up
expel

2 Comprehension Choose the correct alternatives.

Ryder, Gabrielle, Jade, and Antonio are all talking about **Luis** / **the principal** because they have seen him standing outside **the principal's office** / **the school**. They **don't know** / **know** why he is there, but they **all** / **don't** think he cut school again. Gabrielle's mom and Jade have both seen him **at the dentist** / **downtown** on a school day. Ryder and Gabrielle think that Luis was planning to go **shoplifting** / **to the dentist**. Jade and Antonio are **gossiping** / **worried** about Luis. If he gets in trouble again, the principal might expel him.

Key language

3 055 Match the sentence halves to make sentences from the article. Then write the complete sentences. Listen and check.

- 1 He was standing **e**
- 2 My mom saw him downtown
- 3 I saw him downtown while
- 4 What was
- 5 He was

- a walking along the street with some guys.
- b I was walking to the dentist.
- c he doing?
- d when she was buying lunch.
- e outside the principal's office.

1 He was standing outside the principal's office.

055 Now listen again and repeat.

Listen up!

4 056 Listen to three short conversations. In each conversation, two people are gossiping. Match the conversations with the things they are gossiping about.

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Conversation 1 <input type="text"/> | a the results of a test |
| Conversation 2 <input type="text"/> | b a new boyfriend |
| Conversation 3 <input type="text"/> | c two friends |

Get involved!

5 Complete the questionnaire.

Questionnaire

1 Check (✓) the statement you agree with.

- I think everybody gossips. ☐
- I think most people gossip. ☐
- I think most people don't gossip. ☐

2 Check (✓) the adjectives that describe gossiping for you.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| interesting <input type="checkbox"/> | boring <input type="checkbox"/> |
| offensive <input type="checkbox"/> | funny <input type="checkbox"/> |
| stupid <input type="checkbox"/> | innocent <input type="checkbox"/> |

3 Do you ever gossip?



6 Pairwork Discuss your opinions about gossiping. Take turns asking and answering the questions from the questionnaire in exercise 5.

Do you think that everybody gossips?

Yes, I think ...

7 Now read the questions at the beginning of the article on page 58 again. Write your answers. Use your answers from exercises 5 and 6 to help you.

I really liked the article. I think gossiping is ...

Bad behavior

1 057 Match the verbs in the box with the definitions. Then listen and check.

cheat bully gossip cut school vandalize fight
threaten someone copy shoplift tell a lie steal

break a rule, usually to get something you want
cheat

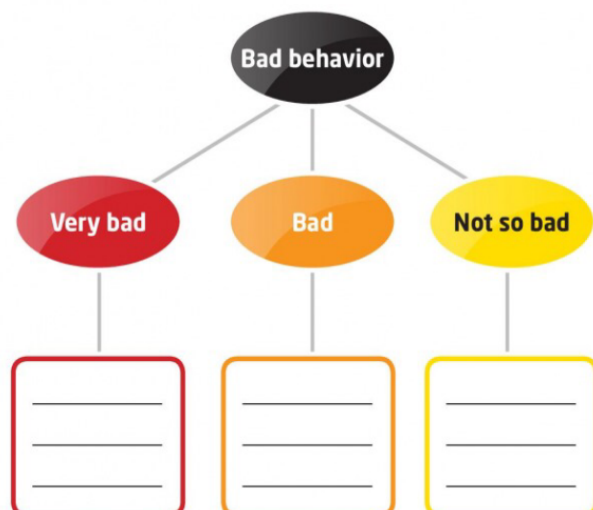
- 1 use another person's words or ideas and say that they are yours
- 2 talk about other people
- 3 frighten, hurt, or intimidate a smaller or weaker person
- 4 be absent from school without permission
- 5 say that you will cause trouble, hurt somebody, etc., if you do not get what you want
- 6 damage or destroy property
- 7 take something without permission
- 8 use physical aggression against someone
- 9 take something from a store without paying for it
- 10 say something that isn't true

057 Now listen again and repeat.

Vocabulary strategy

Categorizing new vocabulary

A good way to learn new words is to group them into categories. Organizing words in charts or mind maps can help you to remember them. Complete the mind map with the vocabulary from exercise 1.



2 058 What did they do? Listen and choose the correct answers.

- 1 Ethan
 - a gossiped about someone.
 - b cheated on a test.
 - c shoplifted.
 - d cut school.
- 2 Jessica
 - a copied answers during a test.
 - b told a lie to her friend.
 - c bullied Amy.
 - d shoplifted.
- 3 Victor
 - a vandalized a bus.
 - b gossiped about someone.
 - c fought two boys on the school bus.
 - d sat behind a boy who threatened him.
- 4 Gracie
 - a threatened someone.
 - b cut school.
 - c stole something.
 - d vandalized something.

3 **Pairwork** Tell your partner what you think of the examples of bad behavior in exercise 1. Are they very bad, bad, or not so bad? Use your mind map from the Vocabulary strategy to help you.

I think it's very bad to bully someone.

Me too. I don't think it's so bad to copy.

Really? I think it's bad to copy.

Past progressive

Affirmative and negative

He **was standing** outside the principal's office.

Affirmative	Negative
I was standing .	I wasn't standing .
You were standing .	You weren't standing .
He / She / It was standing .	He / She / It wasn't standing .
We / You / They were standing .	We / You / They weren't standing .



Look

We use the past progressive to describe actions that were in progress at a particular time in the past.

- We often use the past progressive to describe background events in a story.

*The birds **were singing** in the trees.*

- We usually use the contracted negative form of the past progressive.

*They **weren't watching** the game.*

Rules p.W26

1 Choose the correct alternatives.

I was **traveling** / **traveled** on the train last night.

- You **was** / **were** listening to the teacher.
- That man was **stealing** / **steals** clothes.
- Max and Alex **did** / **were** playing tennis on Sunday.
- We **wasn't** / **weren't** watching the game on TV.
- Amelia **not** / **wasn't** shopping for a new phone.

2 Complete the sentences with the affirmative (✓) or negative (X) past progressive form of the verbs in parentheses.

Last night, Will **wasn't playing** (X play) soccer.
He was listening to music.

- They (✓ gossip) about Ana again this morning. They don't like her at all!
- I (X listen) to music yesterday because my MP3 player is broken.
- Mom was angry with us because we (X help) her in the kitchen.
- The store assistant thought we (✓ shoplift), but we were only looking at the clothes.

Interrogative and short answers

What **was he doing**?

Was he causing trouble?

No, he **wasn't**.

Interrogative	Short answers
Was I standing?	Yes, you were . No, you weren't .
Were you standing?	Yes, I was . No, I wasn't .
Was he / she / it standing?	Yes, he / she / it was . No, he / she / it wasn't .
Were we / you / they standing?	Yes, we / you / they were . No, we / you / they weren't .

Rules p.W26

3 Complete the mini-dialogues with the past progressive form of the words in parentheses.

A **Were you waiting** (you wait) for me?

B Yes, **I was**.

1 A (it rain) last night?

B No, .

2 A (they study)?

B No, .

3 A (Nina use) my computer?

B Yes, .

4 A (you talk) to me?

B No, .

4 Use the prompts to write questions. Then ask and answer them with your partner. Use answers that are true for you.

watch TV / last night?

A **Were you watching TV last night?**

B **No, I wasn't.**

1 you and your friends / play basketball / yesterday?

2 sleep / at 1:00 a.m. last night?

3 listen / to music on the bus?

4 wait / for the bus at 8:00 a.m.?

Challenge

Write a paragraph about things you were and weren't doing yesterday.

I wasn't studying in the morning, but I was doing my homework yesterday afternoon.

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