

LESSON 1

Listening and Understanding

Listen to the recording, and then answer this question: How did the dream end?



Tired of sleeping on the floor, a young man in Teheran saved up for years to buy a real bed. For the first time in his life, he became the proud owner of a bed which had springs and a mattress.

5 Because the weather was very hot, he carried the bed on to the roof of his house.



10 He slept very well for the first two nights, but on the third night, a storm blew up. A gust of wind swept the bed off the roof and sent it crashing into the courtyard below. The young man did not wake up until the bed had struck the ground. Although the bed was smashed to pieces, the man was miraculously unhurt.

When he woke up, he was still on the mattress.
15 Glancing at the bits of wood and metal that lay around him, the man sadly picked up the mattress and carried it into his house. After he had put it on the floor, he promptly went to sleep again.



Guided Conversation

1 Answer questions about the text.

Example: Who saved up for years? A young man in Teheran did.

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|--|--|
| 1 What did he save up to buy? | 8 What swept the bed off the roof? |
| 2 Why did he want one? | 9 Where did it land? |
| 3 Did his bed have springs and a mattress? | 10 When did the young man wake up? |
| 4 Where did he take his bed? | 11 Was he hurt? |
| 5 Why did he take it there? | 12 What about the bed? |
| 6 How did he sleep at first? | 13 Was the young man still on the mattress,
or on the ground? |
| 7 What happened on the third night? | |

2 Ask questions about the text.

Example: The young man lived in Teheran. (Where?)

- i) Did the young man live in Teheran?**
ii) Where did the young man live?

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|---|---|
| 1 He was tired of sleeping on the floor.
(What?) (Who?) | 6 He carried his bed on to the roof.
(Where ... to?) |
| 2 He saved up for years. (How long?) (Why?) | 7 He slept very well. (How?) (Who?) |
| 3 He wanted to buy a real bed. (What?) (Why?) | 8 A storm blew up on the third night. (When?) |
| 4 He bought a bed with springs and a
mattress. (What kind?) (Why?) | 9 A gust of wind swept the bed off the roof.
(What?) (When?) |
| 5 The weather was very hot. (What ... like?) | 10 It landed in the courtyard. (Where?) |

3 Tell the story, using these key words.

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|---|--|
| 1 Tired — on the floor — saved — real bed | 6 didn't wake — bed — struck the ground |
| 2 proud owner — bed — springs — mattress | 7 bed — smashed to pieces — man — unhurt |
| 3 very hot — carried the bed — roof | 8 woke up — still on the mattress |
| 4 slept — two nights — third — storm | 9 Glancing — sadly picked up — carried it |
| 5 gust — swept the bed off — courtyard | 10 put it — floor — promptly — sleep again |

4 Guided summary. Write a complete sentence in answer to each question, to make a paragraph of not more than 80 words.

- 1 What did a young man in Teheran buy for the first time in his life?
- 2 Was the weather hot or cold? Did he sleep on the roof of his house or not? (*Because*)
- 3 Was the bed swept off the roof during a storm three nights later or not?
- 4 Was the man unhurt, or was he seriously injured? Was he still on his mattress or not? (*not only ... but*)
- 5 Was the bed in pieces or not? Did he carry the mattress indoors or not? Where did he put it? Did he go back to sleep or did he stay awake? (*As ... and*)

5 Talk about you.

- 1 Describe the most uncomfortable night you have ever spent.
- 2 Have you ever slept out in the open air at night? If so, what was it like? If not, would you like to? Why? / Why not?
- 3 Do you usually sleep well at night?
- 4 What do you do if you can't get to sleep? Why?