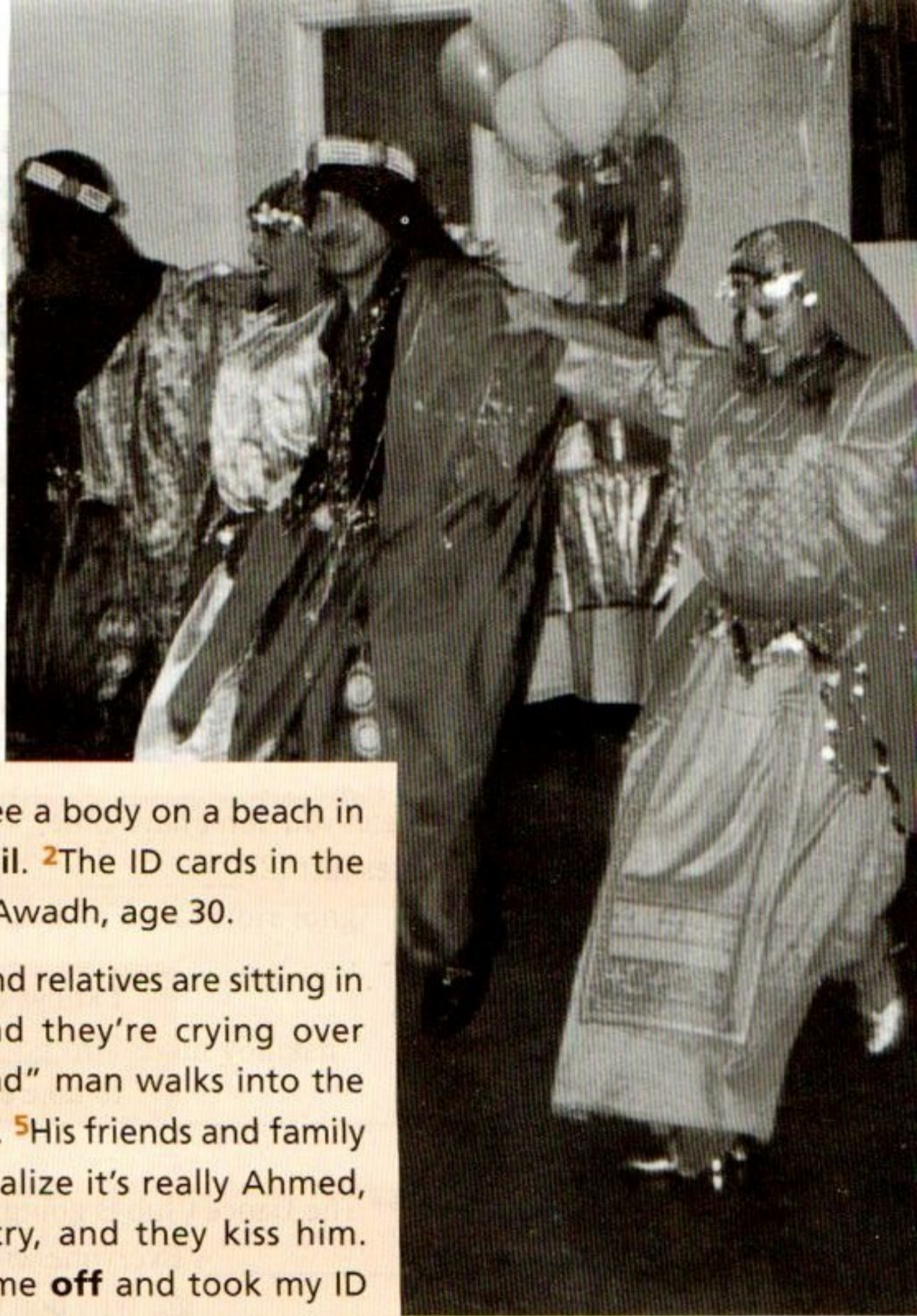


8 Man Dances at His Own Funeral



1. Quick Reading

Look at the pictures on page 35.

What is the story about?

Now read quickly to get the main idea.

CAIRO, EGYPT ¹One day the police see a body on a beach in Egypt. The man is **dead as a doornail**. ²The ID cards in the man's wallet identify him as Ahmed Awadh, age 30.

³A short time later, Ahmed's friends and relatives are sitting in a funeral tent. They **feel blue** and they're crying over Ahmed. ⁴**All of a sudden**, the "dead" man walks into the tent, **looking like a million dollars**. ⁵His friends and family **are dumbfounded**. ⁶When they realize it's really Ahmed, they **go crazy**. They laugh, they cry, and they kiss him. ⁷Ahmed explains, "A thief **ripped** me **off** and took my ID cards. So when the police found the dead man, they thought he was me!" ⁸When Ahmed's friends and family **get over** their shock, the funeral **turns into** a party. They're **on top of the world!** Police are still trying to identify the dead man.

New idioms and expressions

(as) dead as a doornail	completely dead
feel blue	be sad
all of a sudden	suddenly; unexpectedly
look like a million dollars/bucks	look healthy, happy, and attractive
be dumbfounded	be unable to speak because of shock or surprise
go crazy	become very excited and act wildly
rip someone or something off*	steal from someone; steal something
get over something*	recover from a physical illness or an emotional shock
turn into something*	become something different
be on top of the world	feel very happy

*phrasal verb (see Lexicon and Appendix D)


 **2. Listen**

Cover the story and look only at these pictures. Listen to the story two or three times.



3. Read the Story

Now read the story carefully. Pay special attention to the idioms so that you're ready for Exercise 4.

 **4. Listen and Complete**

Close your book. Listen to the story again. When the tape or your teacher pauses, try to complete the idiom.

5. Tell the Story

Cover the story and look at the pictures above. Tell the story using as many idioms as you can.

- a. First, work with the whole class to retell the story.
- b. Then tell the story to a partner or small group.

6. Answer the Questions

About the story.....

- Why do Ahmed's friends and family feel blue at the beginning of the story?
- Why are they dumbfounded?
- Why did the police think the dead man was Ahmed?
- What does the funeral turn into?
- How does everyone feel at the end of the story?

About you.....

- Has anyone ever ripped you off? What did they take?
- Tell about a time when you felt blue. How did you get over it?
- Tell about a time when you were dumbfounded. What happened?
- What are funerals like in your country?

7. Write About Yourself

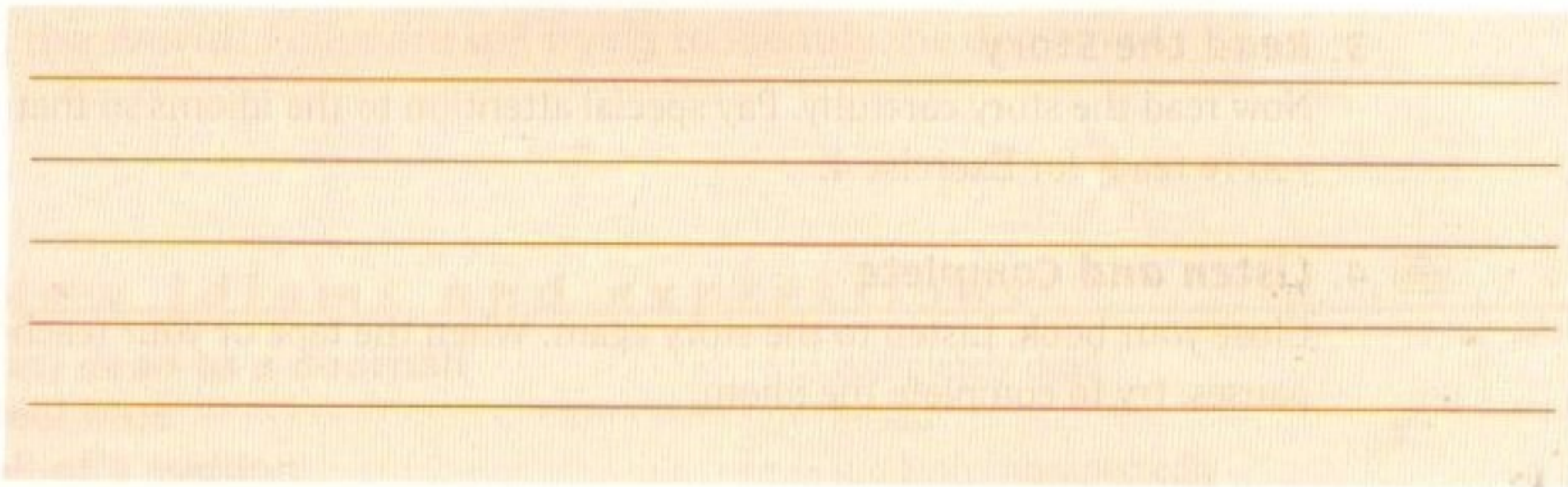
Complete the sentences, writing something true about yourself.

- Sometimes I feel blue when _____.
- I'm on top of the world when _____.
- Sometimes I go crazy when _____.

8. Write a Dialogue

Work with a partner. Write a dialogue using at least three idioms from the unit. Act it out for a small group or the class.

9. Take a Dictation



10. Complete the Dialogue

a. Two good friends, Jaime and Vlado, meet on the street. Fill in the blanks with idioms from the box.

- was dumbfounded
- get over
- look like a million bucks
- I'm feeling blue
- go crazy
- ripped off



Hey, Vlado. What's new?

Hey there, Jaime. Not too much. Is that a new jacket?
It's great. You (1) _____.



It's **old as the hills**.* Someone
(2) _____ my leather jacket,
so I found this in my closet. How are things?

To tell the truth, (3) _____.
Silvia **broke up with**** me last week.



Sorry to hear that, man.

I can't (4) _____ it. There
was no reason. I (5) _____
when she told me it was over.



You need a vacation, Vlado.
Leave town for a few days.

That's not a bad idea. If I keep thinking
about Silvia, I'll (6) _____.



* (as) old as the hills: very old

** break up with someone: end a love relationship

b. Work with a partner. Role-play the dialogue together.