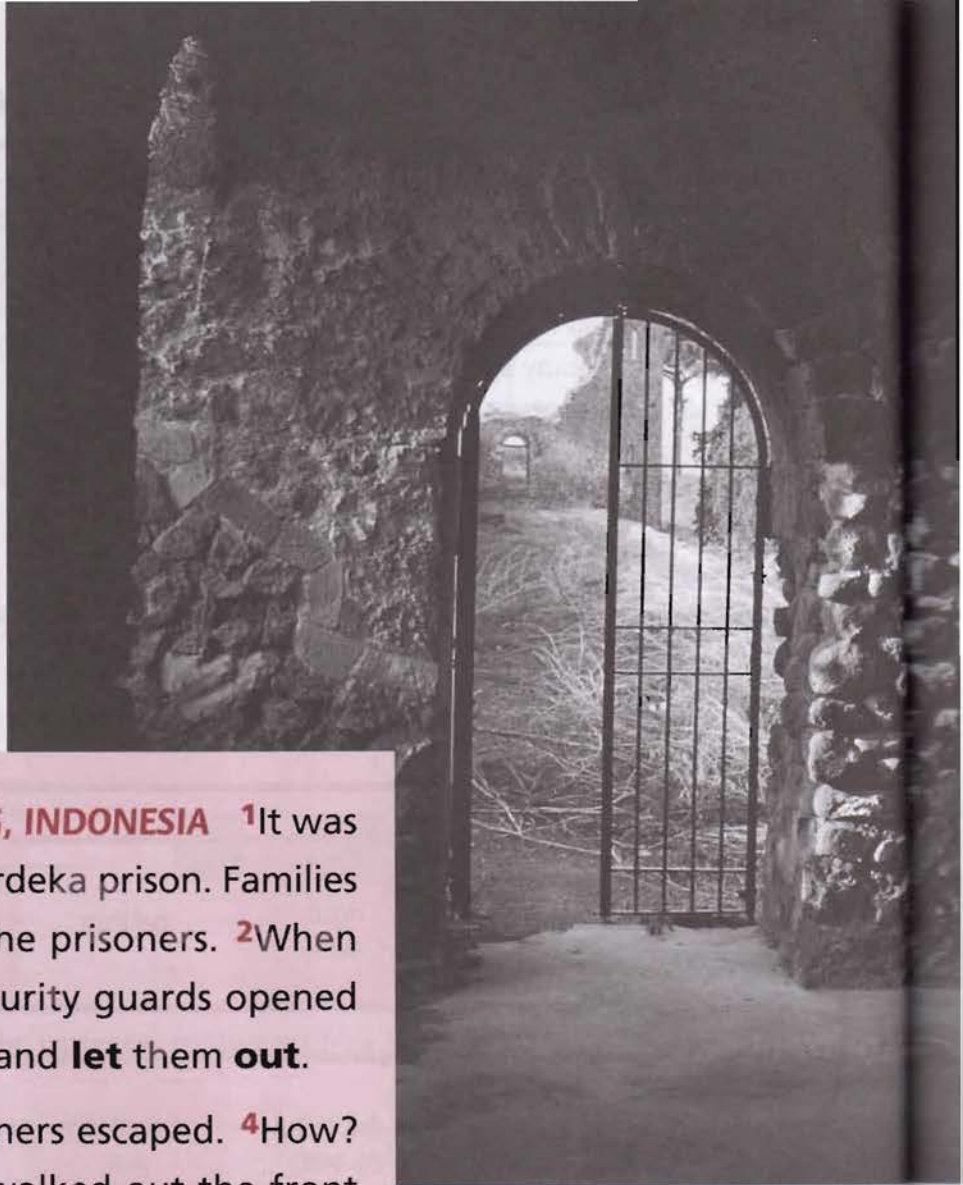


11 Prison Escape is Easy as Pie



1. Quick Reading

Look at the pictures on page 51.
What is the story about?

Now read quickly to get the main idea.


SUMATRA ISLAND, PALEMBANG, INDONESIA ¹It was Sunday, visiting day, at the Merdeka prison. Families were **spending time with** the prisoners. ²When visiting hours **were over**, security guards opened the front gate for the visitors and **let them out**.

³**Later on** that day, 106 prisoners escaped. ⁴How? It was **as easy as pie**. They walked out the front gate! ⁵The guards had **made a mistake** and forgotten to lock it. ⁶Prison officials are red in the face. Police are looking for the escaped prisoners, but **so far**, they have caught only three.

New idioms and expressions

(as) easy as pie	very simple, easy
spend time (with someone)	use time (with someone)
be over	be finished; end
let someone out*	allow someone to leave
later on	later; at some time in the future
make a mistake	do something incorrectly
so far	until now; up to the present time

recycled idioms: be red in the face, look for
*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. Match

Cover page 50. Draw a line from the first word of the idiom to the second. Then match the definitions with the idioms.

- | | | |
|---------------|---------|-----------------------------------|
| a. later | pie | ___ 1. very simple |
| b. make a | out | ___ 2. allow to go out |
| c. as easy as | over | ___ 3. end |
| d. be | on | ___ 4. at some time in the future |
| e. let | mistake | ___ 5. do something incorrectly |

5. Tell the Story

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

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

6. Answer the Questions

About the story

- Why were families spending time with prisoners?
- What happened when visiting hours were over?
- When did the prisoners escape?
- Why was their escape as easy as pie?
- How do prison officials feel now?
- How many prisoners have they found so far?

About you

- Tell about a time when you made a big mistake.
- What things are easy as pie for you?
- How do you spend your free time? Who do you like to spend it with?
- Do you have a pet? Do you let it out of the house alone?
- What time is your English class over?

7. Write About Yourself

Complete the sentences, writing something true about yourself.

- Yesterday, I spent time with _____.
- When school or work is over, I usually _____.
- Later on I plan to _____.
- So far in this book, I have learned _____.

8. Take a Dictation

It was Sunday at the Merdeka prison. Families were _____ the prisoners. When visiting hours _____, security guards opened the front gate and _____ the visitors. _____ that day, more than 100 prisoners escaped. How? It was _____. They walked out the front gate! The guards had _____ and forgotten to lock it. Prison officials are red in the face. Police are looking for the escaped prisoners, but they've caught only three _____.

9. Complete the Story

a. Read the true story and fill in the blanks with idioms from the box.

- was over
- later on
- easy as pie
- made a mistake
- spend time
- let out

Drama at McDonald's

BODENGRAVEN, THE NETHERLANDS People in Bodengraven love to (1) _____ at their local McDonald's restaurant. It's quick, and getting a meal there is (2) _____.



But one day, the fast-food restaurant didn't open on time. Customers wanted their Big Macs. They called the police, and the police became worried. "McDonald's always opens **on time!**" they thought. The police were afraid there was a hostage situation inside the restaurant. Soon there were more than 30 police cars around the restaurant. (3) _____, police called a special team to storm the building. It was time to (4) _____ the hostages. Just then, the manager of the restaurant arrived. "I'm sorry. I thought I was working the late shift," he said. The drama (5) _____. The police (6) _____ and they are red in the face.

* on time: at the correct time

recycled idiom: be red in the face

b. Read or tell the story to a partner.