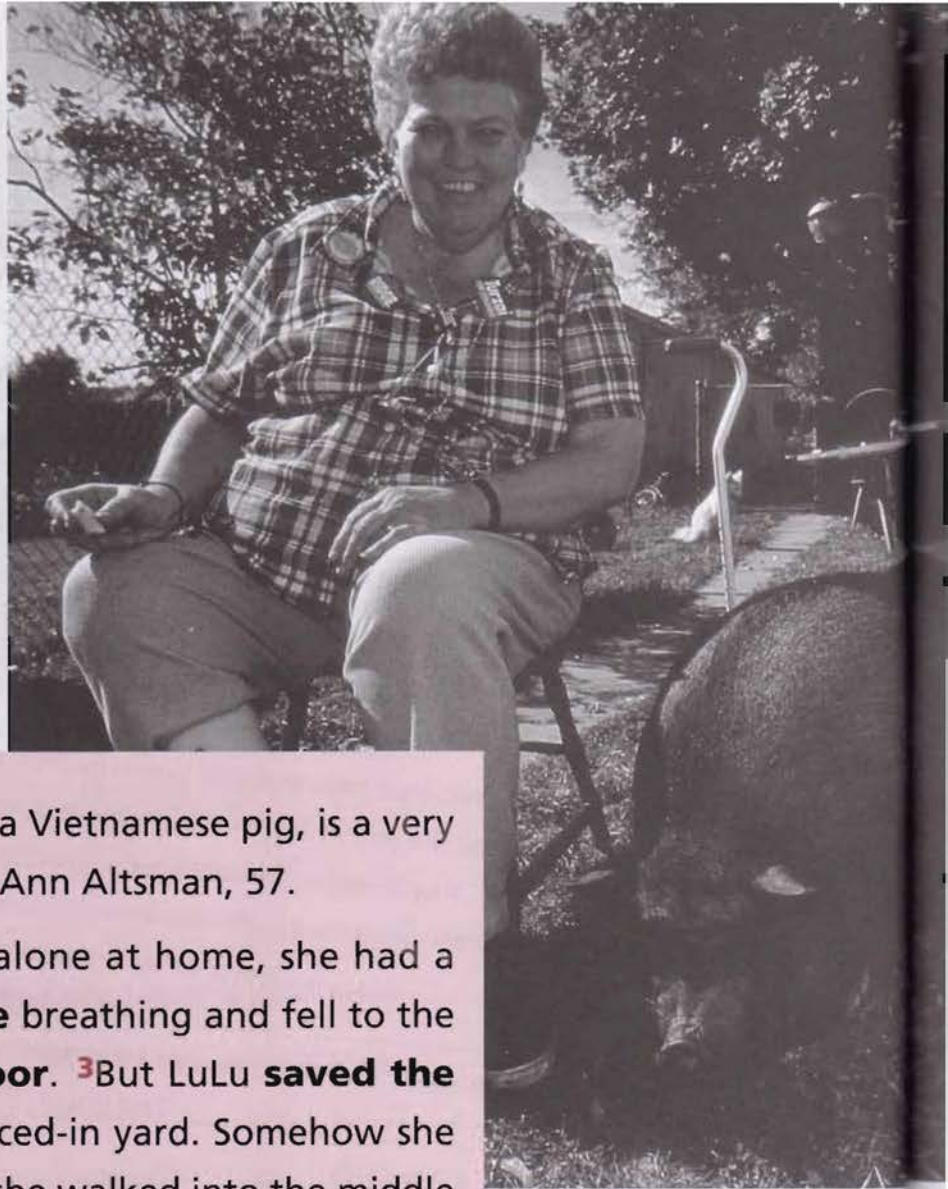


Smart Pig Saves the Day 12



1. Quick Reading

Look at the pictures on page 55.
What is the story about?

Now read quickly to get the main idea.

PITTSBURGH, PA, USA ¹LuLu, a Vietnamese pig, is a very smart pet. She **belongs to** Jo Ann Altsman, 57.

²One day when Jo Ann was alone at home, she had a heart attack. She **had trouble** breathing and fell to the floor. She **was at death's door**. ³But LuLu **saved the day**. The pig ran into the fenced-in yard. Somehow she pushed the gate open. ⁴Then she walked into the middle of the road and **lay down**. ⁵A surprised motorist stopped and got out of his car. LuLu **got up** and led the man into the house. He quickly called an ambulance. ⁶When the ambulance **showed up**, LuLu tried to get in too. "She's very, very smart," the lucky owner said later.

New idioms and expressions

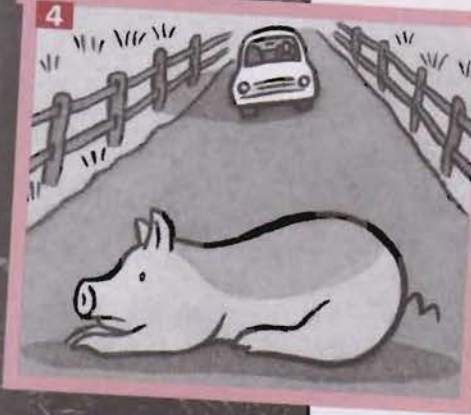
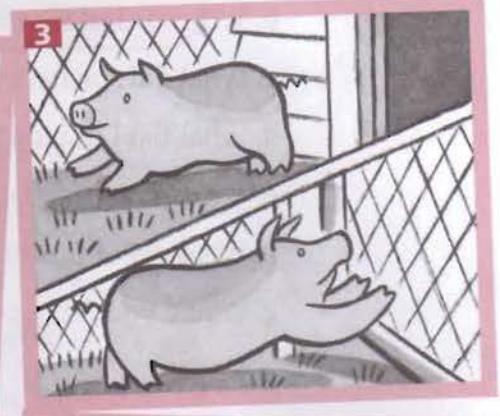
save the day	produce excellent results when things are going badly
belong to someone*	be the property of someone
have trouble doing something	find something difficult to do
be at death's door	be near death
lie down*	rest in a horizontal position
get up*	rise from a sitting or lying position
show up*	appear; arrive

recycled idioms: at home, get out, get in

*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. Complete the Idiom

Cover page 54. Look at each definition below and then complete the idiom.

- a. be near death = be at death's _____
- b. arrive, appear = show _____
- c. be the property of = belong _____
- d. produce excellent results when things are bad = save the _____
- e. rest in a horizontal position = lie _____

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

- Who does LuLu belong to?
- Why was LuLu's owner at death's door?
- What did she have trouble doing?
- What did LuLu do to save the day?
- When the motorist got out of his car, what did LuLu do?
- What did LuLu try to do when the ambulance showed up? Why?
- Would you like a pet like LuLu?

About you

- Do you have a pet? If so, is your pet smart?
- Tell about a situation when you (or someone you know) saved the day.
- What time do you usually get up in the morning?
- What do you have trouble doing? Do you ask for help?

7. Write About Yourself

Complete the sentences, writing something true about yourself.

- I like to lie down on/in _____ to rest.
- I'm very happy that _____ belongs to me.
- I never have trouble _____.
- On weekends, I get up at _____.

8. Take a Dictation

One day Jo Ann Altsman, 57, had a heart attack. She _____
breathing and was _____. But her pet pig LuLu
_____. LuLu went into the middle of the road
and _____. Finally, a motorist stopped. LuLu
_____ and led the man into the house, where he
called an ambulance. When it _____, LuLu tried
to get in too. "She's very, very smart," the lucky owner said later.

9. Complete the Story

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

- saved the day
- lay down
- belonged to
- showed up
- got up

Hit and Run



BUFFALO, NY, USA One evening, Tracey Schelanski

(1) _____ and fell asleep. A few hours later, she heard a loud crash. She (2) _____ and looked out the window. A car had hit her house! But no one got out. Instead, the car **backed up*** and drove away!

The next morning, Tracey looked at the damage to her house. It was bad, and Tracy was steaming. But then she noticed something. The car's license plate was stuck in the house! The license plate (3) _____ for Tracey. When police (4) _____, they told her it (5) _____ a 23-year-old man. They arrested him right away.

* back up: move in reverse

recycled idioms: fall asleep, get out, be steaming, right away

b. Read or tell the story to a partner.