

Man Wants People to Laugh



1. Read the story

Look at the pictures on these pages.
What is the story about? Now read it.

SOUTH AMERICA ¹In 2001, Alvaro Neil, a Spanish **lawyer**, left his important **job** and **sold** his nice car. ²Then he got on a plane and flew to South America to **follow** his **heart**. “I’m going to be a clown* on a bike!” he said. “I want people to laugh. I want them to be happy.”

³Now Neil is **riding** his bike all the **way** across ten South American countries. ⁴He travels from

town to town **by himself** and carries everything on his bike—a **tent**, a bed, and his clown **clothes**. ⁵Neil is **funny**, and he **performs** for free—for children and **adults**. ⁶“People often forget to laugh,” he says, “but it’s very important! Work isn’t everything in life.”

*clown: someone who makes people laugh

NEW WORDS

lawyer *n*

job *n*

sell *v*

follow *v*

heart *n*

ride *v*

way *n*

by oneself *adv*

tent *n*

clothes *n*

funny *adj*

perform *v*

adult *n*

>> See Glossary on page 90. >>

2. Rate the story

How much did you like it? Mark an **X**.

Not at All

A Lot

1

2

3

4

5

3. Check your comprehension

Correct five mistakes in the story summary.

Alvaro Neil, a Spanish doctor, left his good job and flew to North America to follow his heart. "I'm going to be a clown on a bus!" he said. Now Neil is riding through ten countries. He carries everything with him on his bike—his tent, his car, and his clown clothes. "People often forget to cry," he says, "but it's very important!"

4. Check your vocabulary

Complete the sentences with the New Words.

- Neil was a law___, but he left his j___ and s___ his car.
- He wanted to fo_____ his he___ and be a clown.
- He travels by h_____, and he carries his te___ and his clown clo_____.
- Neil per_____s for ad____s and children.

5. Listen to the story track 12

Now listen to the story two or three times. Look at the pictures below as you listen.



6. Retell the story

Cover the story and look at the pictures above. Retell the story using the New Words.

7. Answer the questions

About the story...

- Why did Neil leave his job as a lawyer?
- How and where is he traveling in South America?
- What does he carry with him?
- Who does he perform for?

About you...

- Would you like a funny friend like Neil? Why or why not?
- What makes you laugh?
- Which job would you like better—clown or lawyer? Why?
- What are the three most important things in your life?

8. Learn word partnerships

Study the partnerships below. Complete the sentences so they are true for you.

RIDE		
ride	a bike	Neil is riding his bike through South America.
	a horse	<i>I rode a horse last summer.</i>
	a scooter	<i>I would like to ride a scooter to class.</i>
	a motorcycle	<i>Be careful when you ride your motorcycle.</i>
	a bus	<i>Young-hee rides a bus to work every day.</i>

- I would like to ride _____ sometime.
- I sometimes ride _____ to _____.
- I rode _____.

9. Learn word groups

Complete the sentences so they are true for you. Use words from the pictures.

JOBS



a lawyer



a cook



a doctor



a filmmaker



a banker



a teacher

- I'd like to be _____ but not _____.
- _____ makes a lot of money in my country.
- _____ has an easy job.

10. Take a dictation track 13

Use your own paper to write the dictation. Check your answers on page 86.

11. Complete the story

Use the words from the box to complete the story.

bankers adults funny jobs by yourself perform

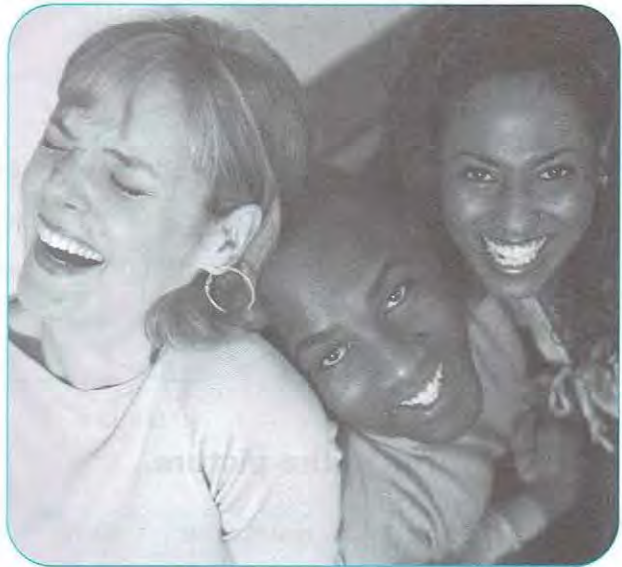
Woman Wants People to Laugh

BRUSSELS, BELGIUM “People need to laugh more,” says Catherine Rochigneux of Brussels. She began a laughter club* because she wanted to make people feel better. Her club meets every day for a long, 15-minute laugh. “It’s like a party,” she says. The club is open to all **(1)** _____.

You can find laughter clubs everywhere—in Singapore, India, Canada, and Australia. There are hundreds of these clubs in the USA.

A bank** in Osaka, Japan, opened a laughter club, too. **(2)** _____ people **(3)** _____ there and make the **(4)** _____ laugh. So they like their **(5)** _____ better now. “This is a happy bank,” says the director***.

It is fun to laugh, but it is hard to do it **(6)** _____. Clubs like Catherine’s can help.



*laughter club: a place where people meet to laugh

**bank: a place that puts people’s money away

***director: the head of a bank or a company



Talk about the stories

What new things did you learn in this unit? What happens when you laugh?