PRACTISING VOCABULARY

1 Complete the text with phrasal verbs from the box. You may have to change the tense.

> set off   take off   get on   check in   get into   break down
> put back   get out   touch down   get off

We didn't want to miss the flight, so we decided to _____ really early. We _____ the taxi at 6 a.m. But unfortunately the taxi _____ on the way to the airport and we had to _____ with all our luggage. Luckily, a bus came along and we _____ it. By the time we _____ the bus at the airport and went to _____ we were 20 minutes late. But by another stroke of luck the departure had been _____ by one hour. The plane _____ 70 minutes late, but there was a following wind so it _____ with only a 50-minute delay.

PRACTISING LANGUAGE

1 Look at the language we use to ask polite questions. When we want to ask a question politely, we can use an indirect form, with an introduction followed by our question. Note that we use the normal statement form for this question. For yes/no questions we use if.

Write your own examples. Imagine you are at a railway station asking about train times and fares.

Polite indirect questions

I'd like to know ...	I'd like to know when the next train for Paris leaves.
Could you tell me ... ?	Could you tell me if I can smoke on the train?
May I ask ... ?	May I ask how long the journey takes?
Do you happen to know ... ?	Do you happen to know which platform the train leaves from?

2 Look at the language we use to interrupt someone politely. Write your own examples. Imagine you are listening to a travel agent telling you about a holiday.

Interrupting politely

Excuse me, but ...	Excuse me, but could you tell me how much it would be for full board?
May I ask a question?	May I ask a question? Where can I buy tram tickets?
Could I (please) ask ... ?	Could I please ask if we can have an early-morning flight?

3 Work in groups. Choose one of the pictures. Invent a story for your picture. Use this outline to help you.

Last summer, _____

The morning of our departure, _____
_____

When we _____
_____

At first, _____

but later _____
_____

In future, _____
_____

4 Tell your story to the class.