* The students are going to write a newspaper article about a robbery in a public place.
* Write these questions on one side of the board.
1. Where was the robbery?
2. When did it take place?
3. How many robbers were there?
4. Were they wearing disguises?
5. Were they armed?
6. How many robbers were there?
7. What did the workers and customers do?
8. Was anybody injured?
9. What did the robbers take?
10. How did they get away?
11. Who called the police?
12. When did the police arrive?
13. Have the robbers been caught yet?
* In pairs or small groups ask students to answer each question using their imagination.
* As this is a newspaper article, talk about how the first paragraph would contain a summary of what the writer feels the reader would most like to know about the incident, and the rest of the article would tell the story in full. Of course, the most important/interesting facts may vary from story to story but would most likely be what the robbers took, whether anyone was injured and whether the robbers have been caught.
* Ask students to write their texts and tell them that they should focus on communicating their story clearly and on using the past simple and past progressive/continuous correctly. Give students a time limit of about 15 to 20 minutes for this task.