## STORY n°1: A special welcome

It was January 2009, the first days of Barack Obama at the White House. On Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup>, Barack Obama was sitting at his desk in the Oval Office.

He was studying a file when he heard a noise coming from the door. He thought it was Michelle, his wife, but he saw that no one was there... Then, he wanted to read the paper in front of him but the paper had disappeared! He looked everywhere but couldn't find it.

It was late in the evening and Barack Obama was afraid! He thought he was going crazy, so he decided to go to bed. In the middle of the night, he woke up because he was hungry. He went to the kitchen and met the cook who was cleaning the place. He asked her, 'Do you know any strange stories about the Oval Office?'

'I just know that JFK comes into the Office to welcome the new president.' She answered. 'John F. Kennedy...??!!'

'Yes, his ghost is very funny!

## STORY n°2: Roses and Whisky

Hello, I am Nick Scott and I work at the White House for our dear president Trump. I am a gardener and I know it isn't an easy job but I want to tell you a funny story.

Yesterday morning, I was in the garden and I was watering thousands of flowers when I heard a rose talk to me... She asked me for a glass of whisky. It was very scary so I jumped into the fountain!

After a few minutes, the rose screamed again: she wanted a big glass of whisky with ice. I was so afraid but I looked at the rose and I saw the face of JFK. That was so unreal...!!

Then, in the afternoon I talked to my friend and fellow gardener Tom: he said the old president enjoyed walking in the garden because he was fond of roses but he didn't like water. He preferred whisky!

One day, Queen Elizabeth received an invitation for Barack Obama's birthday. She accepted it and on August 4th 2011, she left Buckingham Palace to go to Washington DC. When she arrived at the White house, a housekeeper showed the queen her large and beautiful bedroom.

In the evening, after the party, the Queen was very tired. So, she went to the bedroom and immediately fell asleep.

But, at midnight, the Queen woke up because she heard a strange noise. This sound came closer and closer and suddenly, a window opened and there was a bright flash of light. She heard someone who slowly opened the door of the bedroom but she couldn't see him. The Queen was scared... she switched on her bedside lamp and she found herself face to face with an unearthly visitor. He silently approached her. He looked like the portrait in the painting in front of her bed. The Queen tried to touch him but her hand passed through his face!

Elizabeth looked at the painting a second time and she was stunned because the strange visitor was the ghost of the very first president of the USA: George Washington!

Terrified, she ran down the corridor as fast as she could until she found the housekeeper, and told her: 'There is a ghost in my bedroom!!!'.

The housekeeper smiled and answered: 'Of course, there is a ghost in your bedroom! It's George Washington's bedroom!' The queen was so shocked, she couldn't even say 'My god!' then she fainted.

## **Sequencers**

to begin with

then

after

afterwards

meanwhile

while

next

finally

when

lact

in the middle of the

at night

in the morning/evening

at + time

one day

the next...

until

again

suddenly / all of a sudden

## Structure

- Striking / catchy title
- 1) Situation: who & where.
- 2) A person heard, saw or felt something strange.
- 3) He/she faced a ghost and got scared.
- 4) Realisation of who the ghost is (recognition or testimony from another person).