

Easy English Stories – Episode 23: The Nimbus Cloud

Target Level: Move 4 and up

Grammar: Expressing emotions in the past simple using *felt* (e.g., *felt happy*, *felt embarrassed*, *felt proud*, *felt confused*)

Vocabulary: cloud, rain, glasses, field, painting, soccer, party, wet, sad, angry, confused, proud, excited, calm, happy

Functions: Describing past feelings and understanding simple cause and effect

INTRODUCTION

C.S.: Hello, boys and girls! Welcome to Easy English Stories! I'm Captain Story!

Echo: Hello, Captain Story. I feel very hungry this afternoon.

C.S.: You always feel hungry. What did you eat for lunch?

Echo: I ate a big bowl of air soup.

C.S.: Air soup?! Echo, what's air soup?

Echo: Here it is. You take a bowl. You put nothing in it. It is easy.

C.S.: Now, I feel confused. That's just an empty bowl.

Echo: Look! You can use a straw!

C.S.: Echo, please stop.

MAIN STORY: The Nimbus Cloud

C.S.: High up in the sky lived a little cloud named Nimbus. Nimbus always **felt happy** because he loved to help.

On Sunday, Nimbus looked down at the city. He saw something brown in a field. "A dry tree!" he thought. "I think it feels very thirsty!" So Nimbus went over the tree. He rained and rained. He **felt proud**.

Echo: He **felt proud**.

C.S.: On Monday, Nimbus was above a park. He looked down. He saw orange things moving fast. "Look! Fish!" he thought. "They need water!" So Nimbus rained and rained. The park was filled with water. The fish were jumping up and down. "They **feel excited**," Nimbus thought.

Echo: They **feel excited**.

C.S.: On Tuesday, Nimbus looked down again. He was over a garden. He saw many colors in a garden. "Beautiful flowers!" he thought. "They need water!" So Nimbus rained and rained. He **felt very proud**.

Echo: He **felt proud**.

But down on the ground, a little girl named Mia was very angry.

Echo: She **felt angry**.

C.S.: Yes. It was Mia's birthday party. Her mother brought her a beautiful dress. Her soccer team was there, too. There was a cake and balloons. But suddenly the rain came. Mia looked up. The sky was blue. But she saw just one little gray cloud raining above the garden. The cake got wet. The balloons fell down. The party was over.

Mia looked up at the cloud. She **felt very, very angry**.

She put on her boots. She went downtown. She climbed the tallest building in town. Up, up, up she went.

On the roof, she shouted, "Hey, Cloud! Why are you so naughty? On Sunday, you rained on my mom and ruined her painting. On Monday we played soccer, but you ruined our game. And today you ruined my birthday party!"

Nimbus **felt confused**. "Ruined? Of course not. On Sunday, I watered a dry tree. On Monday, I watered orange fish. Today, I watered pretty flowers!"

Mia's mouth fell open. "That was not a tree! That was my mother painting! Those were not fish! It was our soccer team—we have orange shirts! Those were not flowers! They were my friends at the party!"

C.S.: Nimbus was quiet. He **felt embarrassed**. Then he **felt sad**.

Echo: He **felt sad**.

C.S.: "I wanted to help," whispered Nimbus. "But I think I don't see well."

Mia's angry face changed. She took off her glasses.

"Here, Cloud. Try these."

Nimbus came down. He put on the glasses. Suddenly, everything was clear! He could see buildings, cars and people!

Nimbus **felt excited**.

"I can see!" shouted Nimbus. "Oh, so you are a little girl! I thought you were a big carrot!"

Mia smiled. "You can keep the glasses," she said. She **felt calm**.

"Thank you," said Nimbus. "Now I will only rain on trees and flowers. I promise."

Mia climbed down. She **felt happy**. On the street, she looked up. She waved at the cloud. The little cloud with glasses waved back.

Practice:

C.S.: Okay! Now let's practice. Please repeat after us!

C.S.: He felt proud.

Echo: He felt proud.

C.S.: She felt angry.

Echo: She felt angry.

C.S.: They felt excited.

Echo: They felt excited.

C.S.: He felt sad.

Echo: He felt sad.

C.S.: She felt calm.

Echo: She felt calm.

Q & A + Fun Fact

C.S.: And now, it's question time! I have some emails from our listeners. Let's see what they asked!

C.S.: This email is from Lily. She writes, "Captain Story, why do fish live in water?"
That's a great question! Lily, fish live in water because cats do not like to swim!

C.S.: This email is from Tom. He asks, "Captain Story, why do clouds move so slowly?"
Well, Tom, clouds move slowly because they have no legs! No legs, no running!

C.S.: And this email is from Sara. She writes, "Captain Story, do clouds have names?"
Of course, Sara! Let me look out the window... Well, that's Bob. That's Susan. Kevin! Kevin is there!

Echo: Who is that one?

C.S.: Oh, I call him Broccoli.

C.S.: All right... now that the questions are out of the way, Echo, do you have a fun fact for us today?

Echo: Did you know that cloudy nights are warmer than clear nights?

C.S.: Really? Why?

Echo: Because clouds act like a big, warm blanket!

C.S.: Oh! And the warm air doesn't go into space.

Echo: Yes.

C.S.: I got it! Well, that's all for today, boys and girls! Thank you for listening. See you next week for another Easy English Story!

Echo: Goodbye!