

92 Asking for Trouble

It must have been about two in the morning when I returned home. I tried to wake up my wife by ringing the door-bell, but she was fast asleep, so I got a ladder from the shed in the garden, put it against the wall, and began climbing towards the bedroom window. I was almost there when a sarcastic voice below said, 'I don't think the windows need cleaning at this time of the night.' I looked down and nearly fell off the ladder when I saw a policeman. I immediately regretted answering in the way I did, but I said, 'I enjoy cleaning windows at night.'

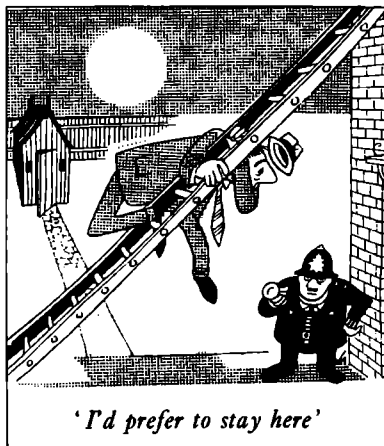
'So do I,' answered the policeman in the same tone. 'Excuse my interrupting you. I hate to interrupt a man when he's busy working, but would you mind coming with me to the station?'

'Well, I'd prefer to stay here,' I said. 'You see, I've forgotten my key.'

'Your what?' he called.

'My key,' I shouted.

Fortunately, the shouting woke up my wife who opened the window just as the policeman had started to climb towards me.



Précis

In not more than 80 words describe what happened from the moment the writer returned home. Write two different paragraphs using the points and connections given below.

CONNECTIONS

POINTS

CONNECTIONS

and
Having

and
Suddenly
but

just as

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| [| 1. The writer returned home—2.0 a.m. |] |
| [| 2. Rang door-bell. |] |
| [| 3. Failed to wake wife. |] |
| [| 4. Put ladder—wall. |] |
| [| 5. Climbed—bedroom window. |] |
| [| 6. Policeman called out. |] |
| [| 7. Answered rudely. |] |
| [| 8. Told him—key. |] |
| [| 9. Shouting woke wife. |] |
| [| 10. Opened window. |] |
| [| 11. Policeman climbing ladder after him. |] |

On

but
After having

when
Answering

who
at the moment when

Composition

Continue the above passage. Write two paragraphs in about 150 words using the ideas given below:

- At first my wife did not recognize me—thought I was a thief—saw the policeman—called for help.
- The policeman pulled me down the ladder—my wife realized her mistake—she explained who I was—she apologized to the policeman—the policeman apologized to me.

Letter-writing

Address an envelope to a married woman who lives abroad.

Key Structures

I don't think the windows need cleaning. Review: KS 51, 110, 166.

Exercises

A. Give the correct form of the verbs in brackets. Do not refer to the passage until you finish the exercise.

I tried to wake up my wife by (ring) the door-bell, but she was fast asleep, so I got a ladder from the shed in the garden, put it against the wall, and began (climb) towards the bedroom window. I was almost there when a sarcastic voice below said, 'I don't think the windows need (clean) at this time of the night.' I looked down and nearly fell off the ladder when I saw a policeman. I immediately regretted (answer) in the way I did, but I said, 'I enjoy (clean) windows at night.'

'So do I,' answered the policeman in the same tone. 'Excuse my (interrupt) you. I hate (interrupt) a man when he's busy (work), but would you mind (come) with me to the station?'

'Well, I'd prefer (stay) here,' I said. 'You see, I've forgotten my key.'

'Your what?' he called.

'My key,' I shouted.

Fortunately, the (shout) woke up my wife who opened the window just as the policeman had started (climb) towards me.

B. Complete the following sentences:

1. I am accustomed to . . .
2. Fancy . . . !
3. I always avoid . . .
4. He accused me of . . .

Special Difficulties

'I enjoy cleaning windows at night.'

'So do I,' answered the policeman. (ll. 13-15)

Study these examples:

He reads a lot and so do I.

He doesn't read much and neither do I.

He can swim and so can I.

He can't swim and neither can I.

Exercise

Join each of these pairs of sentences using *so* or *neither*.

1. He likes classical music. I like classical music.
2. He has had breakfast. I have had breakfast.
3. He doesn't like classical music. I don't like classical music.
4. She will buy a new dress. I will buy a new dress.
5. He hasn't had breakfast. I haven't had breakfast.
6. They ran quickly. We ran quickly.
7. She won't buy a new dress. I won't buy a new dress.
8. You are late. I am late.
9. They didn't run quickly. We didn't run quickly.
10. He could speak French. I could speak French.
11. He couldn't speak French. I couldn't speak French.