

27 A Wet Night

- Late in the afternoon, the boys put up their tent in the middle of a field. As soon as this was done, they cooked a meal over an open fire. They were all hungry and the food smelt good. After a wonderful meal, they told stories and sang songs by the camp fire. But some time later it began to rain. The boys felt tired so they put out the fire and crept into their tent.
- 5 Their sleeping-bags were warm and comfortable, so they all slept soundly. In the middle of the night, two boys woke up and began shouting. The tent was full of water! They all leapt out of their sleeping-bags and hurried outside. It was raining heavily and they found that a stream
- 10 had formed in the field. The stream wound its way across the field and then flowed right under their tent!
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a stream had formed in the field

Comprehension and Précis

Answer these questions *in not more than 70 words*.

1. Where did the boys put up their tent? What did they cook? (*and*)
2. What did they do after their meal? Did it begin to rain or not? Did they creep into their tent or not? (*but . . . so*)
3. Did the boys wake up in the middle of the night or not?
4. Was the tent full of water or not? Did they rush outside or did they stay in their tent? (*so*)
5. Where had a stream formed? Where did it flow? (*and*)

Composition

Rewrite these sentences using the correct verbs and joining words:

I am very tall (*so*) (*but*) I must be careful. Doorways **are** often low (*and*) (*but*) I usually (**beat**) (**knock**) my head against them. My head always (**hurts**) (**pains**). I have never (**met**) (**recognized**) a tall architect. Have you?

Letter-writing

The order of the heading is as follows: the number of the house, the name of the street, the town or city, the area, the country and the date. Put in the name of the country only when you are writing to someone who lives abroad.

Exercise

Arrange the following heading in the correct order:

California, Woodside, 21st Feb., 19—, U.S.A., 21 Brook St.,

Key Structures

What happened? (KS 17)

Read these sentences carefully. The verbs in *italics* tell us what happened:

I *lost* my umbrella a few days ago.

I *bought* this coat yesterday.

I *dreamt* of you last night.

She *paid* the bill and *left* the shop.

Exercises

A. Underline the verbs in the passage that tell us *what happened*.

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

Late in the afternoon, the boys (put) up their tent in the middle of a field. As soon as this (do), they (cook) a meal over an open fire. They were all hungry and the food (smell) good. After a wonderful meal, they (tell) stories and (sing) songs by the camp fire. But some time later it (begin) to rain. The boys (feel) tired so they (put) out the fire and (creep) into their tent. Their sleeping-bags were warm and comfortable, so they all (sleep) soundly. In the middle of the night, two boys (wake) up and (begin) shouting. The tent (be) full of water! They all (leap) out of their sleeping-bags and (hurry) outside. It was raining heavily and they (find) that a stream had formed in the field. The stream (wind) its way across the field and then (flow) right under their tent!

Special Difficulties

(See SD 24, 26)

Study these sentences. Each one contains the verb *put*. The verb has a different meaning in each sentence:

The boys *put up* their tent in the middle of a field. (ll. 1-2)

They *put out* the fire and crept into their tent. (ll. 8-9)

I *put on* my coat and left the house.

You needn't go back to London tonight. We can *put you up* for the night. (We can provide you with a bed.)

The teacher sent the boy to the headmaster. He could not *put up with* him any longer. (He could not stand him.)

Take out your note-books. *Put down* all the sentences that are on the blackboard. (Write all the sentences . . .)

We cannot have the meeting tonight. We shall have to *put it off* until tomorrow. (We shall have to postpone it.)

Close your books and *put them away*.

Exercise

Use the correct expression with *put* in each of the following:

1. Mrs Bowers told her children to . . . their toys and go to bed.
2. You can stay here tonight. We can . . . you . . . in the spare room.
3. I'm not ready yet. I haven't . . . my shoes . . .
4. 'Open your copy books and . . . the following,' the teacher said.
5. Father is . . . the fire he lit in the garden.
6. When they have . . . that new building, it will spoil the view.
7. I have . . . my trip to Japan until next month.
8. I am getting a divorce. I can't . . . him any longer.