

44 Through the Forest

- Mrs Anne Sterling did not think of the risk she was taking when she ran through a forest after two men. They had rushed up to her while she was having a picnic at the edge of a forest with her children and tried to steal her handbag. In the struggle, the strap broke and, with the bag in their possession, both men started running through the trees. Mrs Sterling got so angry that she ran after them. She was soon out of breath, but she continued to run. When she caught up with them, she saw that they had sat down and were going through the contents of the bag, so she ran straight at them. The men got such a fright that they dropped the bag and ran away. 'The strap needs mending,' said Mrs Sterling later, 'but they did not steal anything.'



Comprehension and Précis

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

1. How many men tried to steal Mrs Sterling's handbag?
2. What was she doing at the time?
3. Did they take the bag after a struggle or not? Where did they run? (*and*)
4. Did she run after them or not? Did she catch up with them or not? (*and*)
5. Had the men sat down or not? What were they doing? (*and*)
6. What did Mrs Sterling do? What did they do? (*so*)

Composition

Rewrite the following sentences using the joining words in brackets:

1. Thieves can be very daring. They can be very timid. (*either . . . or*)
2. A thief once broke into a house. He stole some money. The lady of the house caught him. (*and . . . but*)
3. The thief gave back the money. He paid for the window he had broken. (*not only . . . but*)

Letter-writing

Addressing the envelope

The name and address must appear in the middle of the envelope. Titles are always used with names. Study these examples:

Mr James Thompson, James Thompson Esq., ('Exquire')

Miss H. Thompson, Mrs D. Thompson,

Mr and Mrs J. Thompson,

Exercise

Address an envelope to a friend who lives abroad.

Key Structures

Both men started running through the trees.

a Do you remember these sentences: (KS 51)

Eating is always a pleasure.

I am very keen on *cycling*.

He sat there without *saying* anything.

I must apologize for not *letting* you know earlier.

b Now study these examples:

I am looking forward to *seeing* him tomorrow. (SD 96b)

I am accustomed to *getting* up early.

I am used to *getting* up early.

(Compare: I used to get up early but I don't any more. KS 83)

c Instead of saying:

The men started *to run* through the trees.

They began *to run*.

They continued *to run*.

We can say:

The men started *running* through the trees.

They began *running*.

They continued *running*.

d Compare these sentences:

Now

I hate *to disturb* you, but can I come in for a moment please?

I'd love (or like) *to sit* in the garden.

Always

I hate *disturbing* people when they are busy.

I love (or like) *sitting* in the garden when it's fine.

e Study these expressions:

My shirt is torn. It needs *mending*.

Those windows are dirty. They want *washing*.

Exercises

A. There are some verbs in the passage which are similar in form to the examples given above. Can you find them?

B. Give the correct form of the verbs in brackets:

1. I'd love (see) that film. Will it be on tomorrow?
2. He's accustomed to (work) very hard.
3. These shirts need (iron).
4. I hate (leave) so early, but I'm afraid I have to.
5. They continued (argue) till after midnight.
6. Would you like (come) with me?
7. I shall be looking forward to (see) you soon.
8. You must never come into this room without (knock) first.
9. I got tired of (wait) so I left.
10. It began (rain) just as I was going out.
11. I don't believe in (work) too hard.
12. He accused me of (take) his umbrella.

Special Difficulties

Study these uses of the verbs *catch* and *run*:

When she *caught up with* them, she saw that they had sat down. (ll. 12-13) (When she reached them . . .)

They dropped the bag and *ran away*. (ll. 16-17)

Exercise

Write two sentences using each of the verbs given above.