# Lesson 62: After fire

After fire

What was the danger to the villages after the fire?

Firemen had been fighting the forest fire for nearly three weeks before they could get it under control.

A short time before, great trees had covered the countryside for miles around.

Now, smoke still rose up from the warm ground over the desolate hills.

Winter was coming on, and the hills threatened the surrounding villages with destruction, for heavy rain would not only wash away the soil but would cause serious floods as well.

When the fire had at last been put out, the forest authorities ordered several tons of a special type of grass seed, which would grow quickly.

The seed was sprayed over the ground in huge quantities by airplanes.

The planes had been planting seed for nearly a month when it began to rain.

By then, however, in many places the grass had already taken root.

In place of the great trees that had been growing there for centuries, patches of green had begun to appear in the blackened soil.

It took the firemen nearly three weeks to get the forest fire under control.

Now that all the great trees had been burnt, there was danger that heavy rain would cause serious floods, which would destroy the surrounding villages.

To prevent this, the forest authorities ordered grass seed, which was sprayed over the ground by planes for nearly a month.

By the time that it began to rain, the grass had taken root in many places.

The firemen cut down trees in order to prevent the fire from spreading.

The fire, which raged for two weeks, caused millions of pounds' worth of damage.

Forest workers planted young trees quickly so that the whole area would not become a desert.

He lived in Scotland fifteen years ago.

He had lived in Scotland for fifteen years before he came to England.

He had already finished work before I arrived.

He had been working in a factory for years before he got this job.

I asked him what he had lost and asked him what he had been doing all afternoon.

After Howard Carter discovered Tutankhamen's tomb, strange reports appeared in the newspapers.

Three of the people who had taken part in the discovery died soon afterwards.

Though nothing happened to Carter himself, newspapers claimed that these people had died because of the ‘curse of the Pharaohs.’

These absurd stories have been forgotten, but a great discovery remains.

Archaeologists had been searching the Valley of the Kings for years, but until 1922 nothing had been found.

He controls a large business company.

A mechanic checked my car engine.

The Parthenon is a great building.

Skyscrapers are big buildings.

The ball fell to the ground.

The inspector checked my ticket.

Nothing can grow in this poor soil.

Have you checked those figures?

Beethoven was a great composer.

Grass seed had to be planted quickly to prevent flooding.

Planes were used because this was the quickest way to plant huge quantities of seed.

How long had they been fighting the forest fire?

For nearly three weeks.

The hills threatened the surrounding villages with destruction.

The villages might be destroyed.

If it rained heavily, there would be floods.

The planters took nearly a month to plant the seed.

The trees had been there for centuries.

Heavy rain would wash away the soil.

It would carry it away.

Large amounts of seed were used.

The seed had already taken root.

It had begun to grow.

Patches of green had begun to appear.

There was green grass here and there.

The grass had begun to appear in the soil.

It had begun to show.