

Tenses IV

In the following passage, write the correct and complete form of the given verb in the space provided. Use any other elements included in the brackets in your reply.

Aunt Dorothy

“What on earth _____ (you, think) _____ (you, do)?”
_____ (come) the ear.
_____ (split) cry from the top of the stairs.

There was no doubt about it – I had once more been caught in a most _____ (embarrass) situation by my Aunt Dorothy, the only one of my seven aunts whom, traditionally, I _____ (always, try) _____ (avoid) _____ (for/since) the day I learnt to crawl.

The reason for this was simple: whenever, as a small girl, I _____ (involve *passive*) in some doubtful activity, fate _____ (generally, arrange) that she _____ (be) the one who _____ (discover) me at the worst possible moment.

I _____ (still, think) that, _____ (I, be) a boy, she _____ (not, may react) in the same way but, even on her best days, Aunt Dorothy, who _____ (die) in tragic circumstances on my twenty-first birthday, _____ (look) like some mythical fire _____ (breath) dragon that was on the point of _____ (launch) a merciless attack on the entire male species, and she _____ (never, can, accept) that a niece of hers should have tomboy tendencies.

“Nice girls,” she _____ (repeat) to me at least a dozen times day, - _____ (behave) like young ladies, and not like horribly muddy little schoolboys who _____ (look) as if they _____ (just, come off) the rugby field.”

_____ (during/while) I
_____ (stand) there at the bottom of the
stairs, _____ (wish) I
_____ (be) on another planet, I
_____ (realise) that luck was definitely
not on my side.

Conspiring against me were my _____
(drip) raincoat – it _____ (rain) hard for
over an hour – my mud _____ (cover)
boots – I _____ (take) the short way back
across three _____ (plough) fields – and
my bucket, which _____ (overflow) with
dirty water – if I _____ (tell) her it was
full of tadpoles, she _____ (probably,
go) hysterical.

In addition to which, there was my four-legged and ever-faithful
companion, Rags, who totally oblivious of the imminent storm that
_____ (about, burst) inside the house,
_____ (keep)
_____ (shake) the excess muddy water
off herself in close proximity to some recently
_____ (apply) wallpaper. I
_____ (already, know) in advance that I
_____ (must/have to, clean up) the mess
myself as soon as I _____ (get) changed
but, in the meantime, I could sense that my dear Aunt Dorothy
_____ (prepare) herself
_____ (launch) into her inevitable
sarcastic attack.

I _____ (not, need, wait) long.
“My dear child,” she _____ (bellow) at
me like a bull that _____ (just, make up)
its mind _____ (charge), “I
_____ (never, see) anything so
disgusting in all my life. _____ (you,
like) _____ (explain) exactly why you
bear a _____ (stike) resemblance to an
underwater explorer who _____ (lose)
his diving suit?”

Tenses IV

In the following passage, write the correct and complete form of the given verb in the space provided. Use any other elements included in the brackets in your reply.

Aunt Dorothy

“What on earth **do you think you are doing?**” **came** the ear-splitting cry from the top of the stairs.

There was no doubt about it – I had once more been caught in a most **embarrassing** situation by my Aunt Dorothy, the only one of my seven aunts whom, traditionally, I **had always tried to avoid since** the day I learnt to crawl.

The reason for this was simple: whenever, as a small girl, I **was involved** (had been involved) in some doubtful activity, fate generally **arranged** (would generally arrange) that she **was** (should be) the one who **discovered** (would discover) me at the worst possible moment.

I **still think** that, **had I been** a boy, she **might not have reacted** in the same way but, even on her best days, Aunt Dorothy, who **died** in tragic circumstances on my twenty-first birthday, **looked** like some mythical fire-breathing dragon that was on the point of **launching** a merciless attack on the entire male species, and she **could never accept** (was never able to accept; had never been able to accept) that a niece of hers should have tomboy tendencies.

“Nice girls,” she **repeated** (would repeat; used to repeat) to me at least a dozen times a day, “**behave** (should / ought to behave) like young ladies, and not like horribly muddy little schoolboys who **look** as if they **have just come off** the rugby field.”

While I was standing there at the bottom of the stairs, **wishing I were** on another planet, I **realised** that luck was definitely not on my side.

Conspiring against me were my **dripping** raincoat – it **had rained** (had been raining) hard for over an hour – my mud-**covered** boots – I **had taken** the short way back across three **ploughed** fields – and my bucket, which **was overflowing** with dirty water – if I **had told** her it was full of tadpoles, she **would probably have gone** hysterical. In addition to which, there was my four-legged and ever-faithful companion, Rags, who totally oblivious of the imminent storm that **was about to burst** inside the house, **kept shaking** the excess muddy water off herself in close proximity to some recently-**applied** wallpaper. I **already knew** in advance that I **would** (should) **have to clean up** the mess myself as soon as I **got** changed but, in the meantime, I could sense that my dear Aunt Dorothy **was preparing** herself **to launch** into her inevitable sarcastic attack.

I **didn't need to wait** long.

“My dear child,” she **bellowed** at me like a bull that **had just made up** (has just made up) its mind **to charge**, “I **have never seen** anything so disgusting in all my life. **Would you like to explain** exactly why you bear a **striking** resemblance to an underwater explorer who **has lost** his diving suit?”