

Tenses III

Read the whole story from beginning to end before starting to write in the answers. Then complete the text using the correct verb forms. Also supply during, for, since or while as necessary. (d/f/s/w)

Every cloud ...

49 Main Street.,
Dutton-on-Thames,
Oxfordshire.

April 2nd

Dear James,

It _____ (be) ages _____ (d/f/s/w) I
_____ (last, send) you a letter, and I
_____ (feel) quite guilty about it
_____ (f/s) some time, because I
_____ (write) to you a long time ago, but didn't.
However, here I am in desperate need – and had I not been, I
_____ (not, know) how long you
_____ (wait) for a letter from me!

Anyway _____ (you, read) through the following
description of how my problem _____ (arise)? And then,
when you _____ (finish), I _____ (ask)
_____ (you, consider) a proposition and
_____ (send) me an answer as soon as possible.

As you _____ (probably, remember), I
_____ (always, interest *passive*) in hill walking – ever
_____ (f/s) leaving school, in fact. Two years ago, for
instance, along with a couple of friends you _____
(once, meet), Jim and David Barker, I _____ (take) a
plane to Crete and we _____ (enjoy) a wonderful
fortnight _____ (follow) mule tracks in the mountains
there.

Then, in May of last year, all three of us _____
(drive) down to the Pyrenees, where we _____ (explore)
a whole series of lost villages _____ (d/f/w) a couple of
months.

Earlier this year we _____ (decide)
_____ (go) (walk) in Haute-Provence in France.

Everything _____ (arrange *passive*) and we
_____ (leave) England by air on May 5th. Unfortunately,
however _____ (d/w) the second week in March, Jim and
David _____ (practise) _____ (run)
across Dartmoor in preparation for an important competition, when

David _____ (slide) in some mud and
_____ (tear) a ligament.

Jim _____ (run off) _____ (find)
help, but in _____ (do) so, he himself
_____ (break) a leg. By the time the rescue team
_____ (arrive), both of them _____
(suffer) badly from exposure. In the end, they _____
(take *passive*) to hospital by helicopter and _____
(spend) the first three days on the danger list. That was nearly three weeks
ago, and they _____ (just, advise *passive*) by their
doctors _____ (not, go) on holiday next month – which
(mean) there are two air-tickets nobody _____ (really,
want).

_____ (you and Ann, like) _____
(take) their place? I _____ (realise) this is rather short
notice, but you _____ (seem) _____
(be) the only people among all of my friends who _____
(rather, go) on a walking holiday than (sit) on a beach whilst
_____ (wait) for their bodies _____
(turn) scarlet.

Anyway, if you _____ (like) the idea,
_____ (write) and _____ (let)
_____ (I, know) as soon as possible.

All the best,
Edward

29 King's St.,
Birmingham.

April 5th

Dear Edward,

What a superb idea! When you letter _____ (drop
through) our letter box yesterday morning, we _____
(already, think) of _____ (go) on holiday in May, but we
_____ (not, decide) where _____ (go)!

We _____ (never, be / go) to Haute-Provence before
and we _____ (already, look) forward to
_____ (go) there.
_____ (send) us the details as soon as possible.

Best wishes!
James and Ann.

P.S. _____ (we, know) earlier about Jim and David, we
_____ (send) them a get-well card.

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Every cloud ...

49 Main Street.,
Dutton-on-Thames,
Oxfordshire.

April 2nd

Dear James,

It **has been** ages **since** I **last sent** you a letter, and I **have felt** (have been feeling) quite guilty about it **for** some time, because I **was going to write** to you a long time ago, but didn't. However, here I am in desperate need – and had I not been, I **don't know** how long you **would have waited** for a letter from me!

Anyway **will you read** through the following description of how my problem **has arisen** (arose)? And then, when you **finish**, I'll **ask you to consider** a proposition and **send** me an answer as soon as possible.

As you **will probably remember**, I **have always been interested** in hill walking – ever **since** leaving school, in fact. Two years ago, for instance, along with a couple of friends you **once met**, Jim and David Barker, I **took** a plane to Crete and we **enjoyed** a wonderful fortnight **following** mule tracks in the mountains there.

Then, in May of last year, all three of us **drove** down to the Pyrenees, where we **explored** a whole series of lost villages **for** a couple of months.

Earlier this year we **decided** (had decided) **to go walking** in Haute-Provence in France.

Everything **is arranged** (has been arranged / was arranged / had been arranged) and we **were going to leave** (were to leave) England by air on May 5th. Unfortunately, however **during** the second week in March, Jim and David **were practising running** across Dartmoor in preparation for an important competition, when David **slid** in some mud and **tore** a ligament.

Jim **ran off to find** help, but in **doing** so, he himself **broke** a leg. By the time the rescue team **arrived**, both of them **had suffered** (were suffering) badly from exposure. In the end, they **were taken** to hospital by

helicopter and **spent** the first three days on the danger list. That was nearly three weeks ago, and they **have just been advised** by their doctors **not to go** on holiday next month – which **means** there are two air-tickets nobody **really wants**.

Would you and Ann like to take their place? I **realise** this is rather short notice, but you **seem to be** the only people among all of my friends who **would rather go** on a walking holiday than **sit** on a beach whilst **waiting** for their bodies **to turn** scarlet.

Anyway, if you **like** the idea, **write** and **let me know** as soon as possible.

All the best,
Edward

29 King's St.,
Birmingham.

April 5th

Dear Edward,

What a superb idea! When your letter **dropped through** our letter box yesterday morning, we **had already thought** (were already thinking) of **going** on holiday in May, but we **had not decided** where **to go**!

We **have never been** to Haute-Provence before and we **are already looking** forward to **going** there.

Send us the details as soon as possible.

Best wishes!
James and Ann.

P.S. **Had we known** earlier about Jim and David, we **would** (should) **have sent** them a get-well card.