

A Disastrous Sailing Holiday

Bill and Simone Butler left Miami one summer weekend on their annual sailing holiday, in their boat, Siboney. They wanted to sail round the Caribbean Sea for two weeks. (§1)

During their holiday, they saw a large group of whales. Bill and Simone were very excited. Unfortunately, while they were watching them, the whales began to hit the side of the boat. Suddenly, water started flooding in and they realized that they were in trouble. They quickly jumped into the lifeboat while the boat was sinking, and watched it disappear under the sea. (§2)

Fortunately, they had enough food and water for twenty days. They also had a fishing line and a machine which made salt water into drinking water. These two things helped them to survive during their terrible experience. For the next fifty days they caught about ten fish a day and ate them raw. (§3)

They saw about twenty ships, but although they waved and shouted while they were passing, nobody saw them. They were becoming weaker and weaker. Then, just as they were beginning to lose hope, a fishing boat rescued them. Their disastrous holiday was over. (§4)



Adapted from: 'New Headway' (pre intermediate workbook)

Liz and John Soars, Oxford University Press.

PART ONE (14 pts)

A/- Reading Comprehension

(07 pts)

Read the text carefully and do the following activities:

Activity One: (02 pts). Match each title with its corresponding paragraph.

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------|
| 1. The hard days at sea. | Paragraph § 1 |
| 2. The rescue. | Paragraph § 2 |
| 3. A sailing holiday. | Paragraph § 3 |
| 4. The accident. | Paragraph § 4 |

Activity Two: (03 pts). Read the following statement and write "true", "false" or "not mentioned".

- | | |
|--|-------|
| 1. Some whales were swimming close to Butlers' boat. | |
| 2. The whales didn't damage the boat. | |
| 3- Costa Rican Coast Guard ship saved the Butlers. | |

Activity Three: (02 pts). (A) Find in the text words that are closest in meaning to the following.

vacation = watched =

(B) Find in the text words that are opposite in meaning to the following.

slowly ≠ on ≠

B- Mastery of Language**(07 pts)****Activity One: (02 pts) Spot the mistakes and write the corrected passage on you answer sheet.**

We was camping in the sahara while, we see a big snake.

.....

Activity Two: (03 pts). Write the correct form of the verbs in brackets.

El-Oued desert is a very nice place to camp. Last weekend, I (to go)there with my family. As we (to have)sandwiches, we (to see)a huge scorpion. So we immediately left the camp site.

Activity Four: (02 pts) Pick out from the text four words and complete the table according to the pronunciation of their final (ed).

/ t /	/ d /	/id/
1-	1-	1-
		2-

PART TWO: Written Expression**(06 pts)**

As you were camping with some friends or your family, something bad happened. So you decided to go back home. Write an e-mail to your penfriend. Tell her / him what happened.

These cues can help you:

- Date (**when**): (spring / summer / winter holidays ...)
- Place (**where**): (forest / lac / beach / Sahara ...)
- The first days: (good / great / lovely time ...)
- What happened and what you did?
- You feelings: (anxious / upset / sad / terrified ...)

Good Luck

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| 1. Some whales were swimming close to Butlers' boat. | True |
| 2. The whales didn't damage the boat. | False |
| 3- Costa Rican Coast Guard ship saved the Butlers. | Not mentioned |

Activity Three: (02 pts). (A) Find in the text words that are closest in meaning to the following.

vacation = **holiday**

watched = **saw**

(B) Find in the text words that are opposite in meaning to the following.

slowly ≠ **quickly**

on ≠ **under**

B- Mastery of Language**(07 pts)****Activity One: (02 pts) Spot the mistakes and write the corrected passage on your answer sheet.**

We **was** camping in the **sahara** while, we **see** a big snake.
We **were** camping in the **Sahara**, while we **saw** a big snake.

Activity Two: (03 pts). Write the correct form of the verbs in brackets.

El-Oued desert is a very nice place to camp. Last weekend, I (to go) **went** there with my family. As we (to have) **were having** sandwiches, we (to see) **saw** a huge scorpion. So we immediately left the camp site.

Activity Four: (02 pts) Pick out from the text four words and complete the table according to the pronunciation of their final (ed).

/ t /	/ d /	/id/
Jumped – Watched – Helped	Realized – waved – rescued	Wanted – excited – started

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