A **Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verbs in brackets. Sometimes more than one answer is possible.**

1 He stopped running, took the mobile phone out of his pocket and _____ (throw) it into the river.
2 The family _____ (sit) in the garden when they heard the blast.
3 Jane couldn't believe that she _____ (make) such a dangerous journey on her own.
4 Everyone was exhausted because they _____ (run) for miles.
5 She jumped up and _____ (chase) the thief down the street.
6 It was the perfect location. Palm trees _____ (sway) gently and the sun _____ (shine) brightly.
7 They were getting ready for bed when they _____ (hear) a knock at the door.
8 Throughout their ordeal, they _____ (keep) calm.

B **Read the writing task below. Write T (True) or F (False) for each of the statements that follow.**

> Write a story which begins with this sentence: *Everyone was scared to death.* (100 words)

1 The story will involve several people. ☐
2 It will be about a frightening situation. ☐
3 Someone must die in the story. ☐
4 You can begin the story any way you like. ☐
5 The story will probably have suspense. ☐

C **Read the example story and circle the correct words.**

Everyone was scared to death. They were trapped in the darkest cave they (1) had ever seen / ever seen after getting lost on a school trip.

The students (2) had screamed / were screaming loudly as pieces of rock fell to the ground. Luckily, no one (3) was / was being injured.

Toby had never been in such an extreme situation before, but he (4) had been keeping / kept very calm.

All of a sudden, he (5) remembered / was remembering that he had his mobile phone. His teacher (6) had told / told everyone to leave their phones in the tent but Toby (7) decided / had decided to secretly bring his.

As quick as lightening, Toby (8) was running / ran to his bag and found the phone. He called his mum and (9) explained / had explained the situation. 'Don't worry,' she said 'Rescue teams are already looking for you.' Toby smiled and immediately (10) told / was telling everyone the good news.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

D Read the model story again and write T (True) or F (False).

1 The writer hasn't used the given sentence properly. ☐
2 The story describes why everyone was so scared. ☐
3 Narrative tenses have been used. ☐
4 The writer uses special phrases to create suspense. ☐
5 By the end of the story the students are completely safe. ☐

E Complete the plan for the example story with these sentences.

Paragraph 1 **a** Describe how the plan is carried out and what happens next. ☐
Paragraph 2 **b** Describe the scene and give more details. ☐
Paragraph 3 **c** Introduce the main character and a plan of action. ☐
Paragraph 4 **d** Use the sentence you were given and say where the story is set. ☐

Useful Expressions

Creating suspense

At that point ...
During the minutes / hours / days that followed ...
All of a sudden ...
As quick as lightning, / As fast as he could, ...
He'd never been in such an extreme situation.
Without thinking, ...
There was no sign of ...
He thought of a plan.
To make things worse, ...
They were just about to give up when ...

F Match 1–6 with a–f to make sentences using some of the *Useful Expressions*.

1 As quick as — a sign of a rescue team.
2 Without — b time on, they knew they only had each other.
3 From that — c lightning, she ran to the car.
4 There was no — d plan that would save them.
5 Then, she thought of a — e point the ambulance turned up.
6 At that — f thinking, he went to the injured man.

LIVEWORKSHEETS