

THE HURRICANE WAS A NIGHTMARE

Joe Burton from Cayman describes a disaster experience: «This story (39)_____ place when I was only eleven years old, but those dreadful pictures of a tropical storm are still (40)_____ if it all happened yesterday.

During that week, we had to face (41)_____ to the most powerful hurricane Cayman (42)_____. The fact that I was just a small boy increased the effects of this experience. I can still hear the noise of the wind (43)_____ on the taped windows that were trembling. When I looked out I was terrified as everything was flying or moving around — litter, tree branches, paper, plastics.

But the nightmare was not that stage when we were just afraid without (44)_____ other possibilities. What the real disaster was we understood later. Actually, the hurricane (45)_____ the island only once, but three times, each time causing more and more damage.

For some days after the hurricane the people of our place (46)_____ to go out of the house. All the roads were cut off, and we did not have water and telephone connection was also lost.

Under those conditions, (47)_____ task was the impossibility of keeping in touch with the rest of my family living around the island. The feeling of presuming the death of your close friends and relatives was hard to endure. We had lived like that for one horrible week before everything (48)_____. For me, those seven days were a real nightmare.»

	A	B	C	D
39	take	took	have taken	had taken
40	as clear as	so clear	both clear and	rather clear
41	in	on	for	up
42	ever see	ever saw	have ever seen	had ever seen
43	blow	to blow	blowing	blew
44	no	any	every	some
45	do not cross	did not cross	had not crossed	was not crossed
46	can't	could not	were not able	had not able
47	the hardest	hardest	the most hard	harder
48	fixed	was fixed	were fixed	been fixed

A long time ago, there was a King who as an experiment decided to check how attentive and responsible the people of his kingdom were. He (49)_____ a large stone on a roadway. Then he found a place to hide and prepared to watch the reaction of people who (50)_____ to be going past. In fact he wanted to (51)_____ out if anyone would remove the stone from the road. (52)_____ he was sitting in his shelter he could see some of his richest merchants and most powerful courtiers come by and just walk around it. Many expressed the blame on the King for not (53)_____ the roads clear, but none of them even tried to do (54)_____ like getting the stone out of the way.

It was about the time when the lower limb of the sun just kissed the horizon when a peasant (55)_____ a load of vegetables appeared on the road. As soon as he (56)_____ the huge rock, the peasant laid down his load and tried to move the stone to the side of the road. After many efforts he finally succeeded. The peasant decided to return to his vegetables when he noticed a purse lying on the road where the rock had been. The purse contained many gold coins and a note from the King saying that the gold was for the person (57)_____ removed the stone from the roadway.

The peasant learned what many of us never understand! (58)_____ obstacle presents an opportunity to improve our condition.

	A	B	C	D
49	places	was placing	had placed	placed
50	happened	happen	happy	happier
51	find	watch	look	come
52	If	While	Even	Although
53	keep	to keep	keeping	kept
54	nothing	anything	everything	something
55	carry	carried	carrying	to carry
56	came round	came across	came up with	came back
57	who	whom	whose	what
58	Any	All	No	Every