

THINGS USED TO BE DIFFERENT MANY YEARS AGO

My name is Mary Baker. I'm a writer. I have written ten books and now I'm working on the eleventh. I began writing as a little girl and I used to write poems and short stories about birds and animals, and I used to write a lot while I was at the medical college.

Then I got married and started my work at the hospital in London. I used to be a nurse and I worked at a children's hospital in London. I used to live and work in the capital city, in the biggest city of England and now I have a quiet life in a small village in the countryside, where I write my stories and create my characters.

I don't miss my city life. I used to find it very interesting but now I love the countryside where I can read a lot, think a lot and write my history book. I write historical novels now. I am always interested in the past and I always try to learn as much as possible about people who lived in the past. Life used to be really different in those times. People didn't use to travel in cars and planes. They used to tell the time by the Sun. They didn't use to buy so much food but grew most of it. Yes, life used to be different many years ago.

TRUE OR FALSE?

1. Mary Baker has written eleven books.
2. She began writing when she was 20.
3. She used to write historical novels when she was a girl.
4. She studied at the medical college.
5. She worked at a children's hospital.
6. Her favourite free-time activities are reading and writing books.
7. She misses her city life.

CHOOSE THE CORRECT OPTION.

1. Her first poems and short stories were about

a) history b) people c) animals

2. After she got married, she began working

a) at the hospital; b) at the medical college; c) at the historical museum.

3. Mary prefers living in the country because she

*a) finds it very interesting
b) likes gardening c) likes reading books*

4. She has always tried to learn as much as possible about

*a) birds and animals b) the past
c) cars and planes*

5. People ... grow most of food themselves.

a) didn't use to b) don't use to c) used to

ANSWER THE QUESTIONS:

1. What city did she use to live in?

2. What was her job before?

3. Why does she like living in the countryside?

4. Do you prefer city life or life in the countryside?

5. Imagine you live in a quiet village far from city. What would you do to keep yourself entertained?