

Use of English Test - B1+

Read the text and choose the most appropriate answer

Three years ago, my father ¹ _____ with cancer. It was stage IV cancer, which meant that he didn't have much time to live. When I learned that he was going to die, I ² _____ him in over a year and, to be honest, our relationship wasn't the best. It was not that we argued a lot because we ³ _____. But if we never argued, it was just because we didn't talk very often.

My parents divorced when I was a teenager, and my father had to move into ⁴ _____ apartment on the outskirts, which wasn't convenient for me. My friends lived near my mum's home, and in my father's apartment, I had a very dark and tiny room. My father ⁵ _____ - and he even bought me an amazing TV with the little income that he had. But I ⁶ _____ in ⁷ _____ a tiny space, and I always made ⁸ _____ excuse to avoid visiting.

The thing is, I ⁹ _____ there for my dad when he needed me. Years went by and I started to feel guilty. I really wanted to have him back, but I had let the relationship ¹⁰ _____ to the extent that we were practically strangers.

When he gave me the news, he looked ¹¹ _____ he was truly sorry, and he told me that it was his fault that we had grown apart; he hadn't fought hard enough to make our relationship work. I couldn't believe how he could feel guilty when I was the one to blame.

I decided ¹² _____ an unpaid leave of absence at work ¹³ _____ I could spend my dad's last weeks with him. It was very hard and wonderful at the same time. We talked for hours every day, we remembered all the good moments, we recounted all the details of our separate lives, and we expressed all those feelings that had gone unconfessed. Before dying he told me that I had given him the best present he could ever have hoped for. I was so moved to hear that, and glad. Since that day I have always regretted ¹⁴ _____ more time with my dad. I wish I ¹⁵ _____ things differently while my father was alive and I still had the chance.