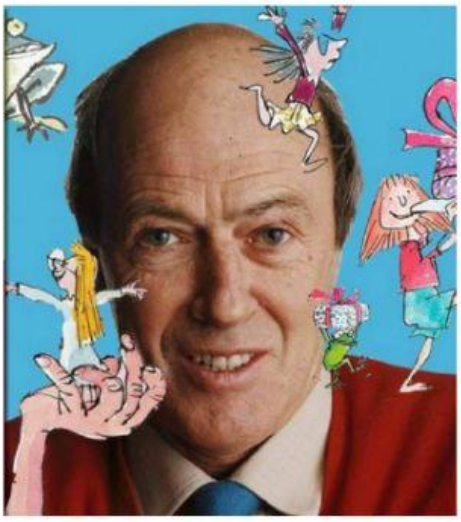
Read the text and complete it with the Past Simple form of the verbs in brackets.

Roald Dahl's father moved to England from Norway in the 1900s. His wife died leaving him with two children, a young boy and a daughter. He [1]_____ (MOVE) back to Norway where he married Sofie Magdalene Hesselberg in 1911. The whole family moved to Wales where they [2]_____ (HAVE) five more children.

Roald Dahl [3]_____ (BE) born in Llandaff, South Wales on 13 September in 1916. His father's health [4]_____ (DETERIORATE) when his eldest sister died of pneumonia. His dying wish [5]_____ (BE) to have his children educated in English Schools, which was what his wife [6]_____ (DO). All the children [7]_____ (BE) sent to Elm Tree School. When Roald was seven, he was sent to Llandaff Cathedral School. His childhood there [8]_____ (NOT BE) very happy. He was later sent to Saint Peter's Preparatory School in Weston. He was good at sports but he [9]_____ (NOT LIKE) studying. One of his main hobbies was reading, and some of his favourite novelists [10]_____ (BE) the adventure writers Rudyard Kipling, Captain Marryat, H. Rider Haggard, and G. A. Henty. Their books [11]_____ (EMPHASISE) a kind of heroism that would later influence both Dahl's life and his own writing.

After completing his education at Repton, he first [12]_____ (WORK) for the Shell Oil Company in Nairobi and at the start of the Second World War he [13]_____ (JOIN) the Royal Air Force. He [14]_____ (SERVE) as a fighter pilot in Africa and was injured in an air crash. In 1942 he [15]_____ (GO) to Washington as a military official and [16]_____ (BEGIN) to have success as a writer.

His first collection of short stories, Over to You, were published in the Saturday Evening Post in 1946. In 1953 Dahl [17]_____ (MARRY) Patricia Neal, an American actress and they had five children. Many of his famous children's stories [18]_____ (COME) from stories that he had invented for his own children. *James and the Giant Peach* (1961) and *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* (1964) were made into very successful films.



In all, Dahl [19]_____ (WRITE) nineteen children's books and two highly successful screenplays for the cinema. His dark sense of humour and the feeling that characters can make anything happen [20]_____ (MAKE) the books extremely popular with children, if not with adults. Roald Dahl [21]_____ (DIE) in 1990.

LIVEWORKSHEETS