

A STORY OF HOPE

CD 3.13 MP3 102

Hope is a sixteen-year-old girl who got malaria and recovered. Her classmate tells her story here.

Hope was one of the best students in our class. But she had been absent from school for several weeks and we were worried. We decided to go to her village and find out what was wrong.

When we arrived, Hope's mother told us that Hope was sick with malaria. We were shocked – we knew how serious malaria could be. We asked how it had started. Hope's mother explained, 'One evening, Hope was really hot and had terrible headaches. She had no appetite. This went on for a few days. We thought that she had been in the sun too long. My husband gave Hope some herbal medicine, but it didn't help. Her condition began to get worse and she developed new symptoms. The fever got higher and she started vomiting. At this point, I was sure she had malaria, but I didn't know what to do.'

Fortunately, we had learnt about malaria at school, and Hope told her mother that she needed medicine quickly. Her mother

took Hope to the hospital. She didn't want to lose another child. Two years before, Hope's baby brother had fallen ill with malaria and died.

At the hospital, the doctor had examined Hope and diagnosed malaria. He had given her an injection and prescribed some medicine. And now she was getting better thanks to the treatment.

We asked if we could see her. We weren't worried about catching the disease – we knew that malaria was not contagious. At school we had learnt that you catch malaria at night, from female mosquitoes. So we were upset to see that Hope was sleeping without a mosquito net.

We told our friend about a place where her parents could get free mosquito nets. We told her we wanted her to come back to school soon. We know that she was very lucky to recover from this disease that kills one baby every sixty seconds.

1. *Read the article and answer the questions.*

Who:

1. visited Hope's village?
2. was sick with malaria?
3. gave Hope herbal medicine?
4. took her to the hospital?
5. had died from malaria two years before?
6. gave Hope an injection?
7. told Hope where to get a free mosquito net?

2. *Read the article again. For questions 1–5, choose the correct answer, A, B, C or D.*

1. The students went to visit Hope because....

- A she was ill.
- B she needed some work from school.
- C they didn't know why she was away.
- D they lived near her village.

2. Hope's mother realised that Hope had malaria....

- A because the herbal medicine didn't work.
- B after a really hot day in the sun.
- C because Hope stopped eating.

D when Hope began to vomit.

3. Who understood the situation and knew what to do?

- A Hope
- B Hope's mother
- C Hope's father
- D nobody

4. What worried Hope's friends most when they saw her?

- A They thought they might catch malaria.
- B Hope wasn't sleeping.
- C Hope wasn't getting better.
- D Hope's bed didn't have a mosquito net.

5. What is the main message of this story?

- A Malaria is a deadly disease.
- B Hope is a very lucky girl.
- C Learning about malaria can save lives.
- D Doctors enjoy treating malaria.