

INDIAN SUMMER

Read the text and choose the correct word.

Captain Majendie had bought the villa in India on his honeymoon, when he was in the British army there, and when he (1) _____, his widow went out to India to (2) _____ some time there. Stuart had known Majendie for years, so he felt he should write to the widow and offer his sympathy (3) _____ he had never met her. Back in England, Stuart received a letter from her, in which she (4) _____ the wish to meet him. "I shall be leaving India at the (5) _____ of June," she wrote, "and I have a lot of business to (6) _____ to. Howard always told me you were his closest friend, so I (7) _____ you can help me with all the official (8) _____ that needs attention. I shall be in Italy for the summer; if you do not already (9) _____ plans, I would be pleased if you could join me there." Stuart felt obliged to (10) _____ his plans for a trip to Ireland and three weeks later found himself in a boat crossing Lake Como, in northern Italy, (11) _____ for Mrs. Majendie's house. He wasn't really looking forward to his stay. He simply didn't know how to behave with the widow of a man he had known for years but had never been keen on, especially since that man had apparently (12) _____ him as a very close friend, as he had sensed with a shock from the (13) _____ of Mrs. Majendie's letter.

