

**Read and complete the text with the correct form of the verbs in brackets. Use  
PRESENT SIMPLE, PRESENT CONTINUOUS, PAST SIMPLE or PAST  
CONTINUOUS.**

Dear Margaret,

How are you? Sorry I <sup>1</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (NOT WRITE) yesterday, but it was a very busy day.  
I <sup>2</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (ARRIVE) at Castringham Hall at a quarter past five. I <sup>3</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (BE) very happy  
when I saw the house because it was freezing cold inside the carriage and the horses <sup>4</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (BE)  
quite tired. I <sup>5</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (LEAVE) my luggage in my bedroom, had breakfast in the dining room and  
went to see the village church. I <sup>6</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (NOT GO) alone; the architect of the village went with me.  
However, when we <sup>7</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (EXPLORE) the land next to the church, we <sup>8</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (FIND)  
some graves there. So, I don't think we will be able to make the church bigger.

Anyway, we continued exploring the place. While we <sup>9</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (WALK) around the  
graves, the architect <sup>10</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (TELL) me scary stories related to the dead people who were buried  
there. Most of them <sup>11</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (BE) criminals and witches. Suddenly, we <sup>12</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (SEE) the  
grave of a very famous witch that lived here many years ago. We decided to unbury the coffin. While we  
<sup>13</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (BRING) it out of the ground, a lot of villagers <sup>14</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (COME) to see the witch's  
bones. They said she was a dangerous woman, but I <sup>15</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (NOT BE) scared at all. However, when  
we <sup>16</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (TAKE) the top off and looked inside, it was completely empty. Can you believe it? The  
dead body had disappeared. All of a sudden, I <sup>17</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (FEEL) terrified!

As you can imagine, I <sup>18</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (CANNOT) sleep well last night. Besides, my bedroom  
was too noisy and there <sup>19</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (BE) a strong smell of smoke coming out from the fireplace. That's  
why I decided to change rooms. I <sup>20</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (WRITE) from my new one now. It is my grandfather's  
bedroom, Sir Matthew. There is a big window and I <sup>21</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (SIT) at a desk in front of it. It  
<sup>22</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (NOT BE) a dark room; it's very bright and I can see a beautiful old ash tree outside.

Mrs. Chiddock is the housekeeper. She is a nice woman and she <sup>23</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (TIDY) the  
whole house up alone. She gets up at five and <sup>24</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (PREPARE) breakfast. Then, she  
<sup>25</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (WASH) the dishes and cups and <sup>26</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (MAKE) lunch. She <sup>27</sup> \_\_\_\_\_  
(NOT HAVE) time to have a nap. She <sup>28</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (DO) the shopping  
in the afternoon and <sup>29</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (HAVE) a shower before dinner. She  
<sup>30</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (NOT LIKE) listening to the radio. She prefers reading.  
Now, she <sup>31</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (CUT) some flowers in the garden. She  
<sup>32</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (WATER) some plants, too.

Well, the bell <sup>33</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (RING). I don't know who may be.

Write back soon. Love,

Richard.

