LISTENING TASK

I was born in 1936 and I lived with my family in a village near Bristol. My father was a fruit farm advisor and my mother was a housewife. But when our teacher retired from my school, my mother asked for the school books and……a small school at home. I think about nine children……come to study with us. Mother taught us French and English,……she was very deaf!

Because it was the war, most people……..have much food. We were lucky as we had lots of land so we……grow our own vegetables and we had chickens, rabbits and a pig. But mother……feed us lentils every day, which I hated! I still can't stand them now. I remember hiding lentils in my pockets – and I'd sow them in the garden. Luckily I didn't ever wait for them to grow! I think that was the beginning of my gardening career, because after I left home that's what I studied at college!

We didn't have a television until I was about ten. Instead, we listened to the radio a lot after school, and we……..play cards and board games, and play with friends outside. We …… really afford many holidays – people didn't in those days. There wasn't much petrol, and it was very expensive. But when I was a bit older we had a caravan and I remember it had a tin bath that hung down under the floorboards. We ……bath time on holidays!

Nowadays people buy so many clothes, but when I was little people ……them all. My grandmother ……..cut up old clothes and make skirts and blouses from them. And she……give us a home made jumper every year that she knitted from wool she took from old jumpers. These jumpers were lovely – bright and stripy. And when we made holes in our socks grandmother ……always mend them for us.

Mmm … we didn't have a lot in those days, but I had a very happy childhood.

LIVEWORKSHEETS