

PAST MEMORIES

I was raised on a farm in a remote village in the 1950s. The winter months were endless and everything was covered in snow. I was always (1) _____ for the warmer weather to come.

When spring (2) _____, everything came alive - flowers would bloom and the animals would come out of hibernation. I'd follow the bear tracks and search for them. Once, however, I (3) _____ an angry mother bear who saw me (4) _____ a threat. (5) _____ the sight of the bear I did what my father had told me. I stood still until she stopped growling and walked away. The trick was effective, but looking back now, I realise that the situation was (6) _____ more serious than I thought at the time.

By the age of twelve, I had lots of camping (7) _____, as I used to go camping with my dog on my school holidays. We would spend days (8) _____ the forest, catching fish for dinner, (9) _____ at the frogs and the (10) _____ of birds and the insects hopping up and down on the surface of the water.

Of course, this was possible only during the warm months. When autumn came, everything went quiet, which was quite (11) _____ in those parts. It wasn't long (12) _____ the animals disappeared, the birds flew south and the snow took over. The place became deserted once again.