FUTURE IN THE PAST

Select the correct verb forms to complete this description of another memory patient.

There was another interesting patient who couldn't form new memories. He could only remember events before 1960. I *was going to ask / would ask* his doctor how someone with no memory managed to cope with daily life, but she suggested I speak to the patient directly. So I went to interview him. Our appointment *was supposed to be / would be* at 2 p.m., but the time made no difference to him since he lived only in the present. I *would tell / would have told* him my name and why I was there, but I realized there was no point: *it was supposed to mean / it would have meant* nothing to him. So I began by asking him about his past, and he talked about his childhood during the Second World War. But then the telephone rang. When he came back, I *was about to ask / would ask* him to continue, but it was clear he had completely forgotten our earlier conversation. I thought he *to be / would be* frustrated by this, but not at all. If anything, he seemed glad not to be burdened by memory.

LIVEWORKSHEETS