

## The hoax

My sister and I used to play pranks on each other. They were amusing, we never hurt one another. But nothing compares to the one she played on me one day; in fact it was one night.

I used to get out of the bed at 6.30 last year because classes began at 8:00 at school and I had to walk half an hour to get to school. It was winter and, as anyone knows, there is no daylight until 7.30 or so.

One evening I set the alarm at 6.30 as usual and I put myself into bed. I usually go to bed at 10.30 in the evening, but that night I had stayed a little longer than usual because I had a project to finish. I am sure, though, it was no later than 11.30 when I went to bed.

I fell asleep almost instantly because I was exhausted and because my usual bedtime had passed. The next thing I know was the alarm. When I heard it, I jumped out of the bed, rushed to the bathroom to take a shower. I felt sleepy, but I imagined it was due to my late sleeping.

Anyway, still half asleep, I prepared myself for school, not noticing it was pitch dark outside. I ate my early breakfast, I prepared a sandwich, I put on my jacket,, ready to go. Just when I was about to leave, my sister came down the hall and called me back saying it was very early and that I should have slept more. Then, I looked at the clock in the hall and realized that my sister had pranked me. She had come into my room and had changed my alarm. It was one o'clock in the morning.

I swore I would have my revenge, but till now I couldn't think of something worthy of the prank my sister had played on me.

### Reading comprehension:

1. Who played the prank on the protagonist?
2. What time did she usually get up last year?
3. When did classes begin?
4. Why did she get to bed late that night?

### Exercises:

1. Complete the sentences with the past form of the following words: to be, to travel, to watch, to sleep, to repair:

- a) Last night they \_\_\_\_\_ in a hut on the beach.
- b) My cousins \_\_\_\_\_ to Greece three weeks ago.
- c) We \_\_\_\_\_ the car yesterday.
- d) Mike \_\_\_\_\_ the movie.
- e) The movie \_\_\_\_\_ interesting.

**2. Change the following sentences into negative ones:**

- a) We studied very much for this exam. That's why we passed it.
- b) Maria understood the exercise very easily.
- c) The car stopped at the traffic light.
- d) The jury considered the final testimony of the witness and they sentenced the defendant to three years in prison.
- e) The little girl saw what happened.
- f) He told us his secret so, we could help him.
- g) I imagined how my future would be.
- h) After the accident, the dog was rushed to the hospital and the doctors saved it.
- i) You ate at a very fancy restaurant.
- j) He rode his bike and went to the store.

**3. Ask questions to the underlined words:**

- a) The Vikings arrived to America around 1000 AD.
- b) The plane landed safely on the tarmac.
- c) My parents went to Spain because they liked it there.
- d) Shakira is my favourite singer.
- e) The young woman danced very well.
- f) My mother bought milk and OJ.
- g) The Prime Minister was in 10 Downing Street.
- h) I visited the museum yesterday.
- i) My father passed away in 2013.
- j) The jacket was Laura's.

**4. Past tense simple or continuous:**

- a) What \_\_\_\_\_ (you/to do) yesterday at 10.00?
- b) They \_\_\_\_\_ (to walk) in the park when they \_\_\_\_\_  
(to hear) the strange noise.
- c) My father \_\_\_\_\_ (to read) the newspaper while my mother  
\_\_\_\_\_ (to cook) dinner.
- d) Dan \_\_\_\_\_ (to write) his homework when Alice \_\_\_\_\_  
(to come) home.
- e) We \_\_\_\_\_ (to watch) the movie when the lights \_\_\_\_\_  
(to go) off.
- f) Nasa \_\_\_\_\_ (to launch) Artemis I successfully.