

Reading Practice

Read the text. Are the sentences true (T) or false (F)?

- a) Life for children hasn't changed a lot. ____
- b) Children in the past had to do a lot of schoolwork. ____
- c) Children in the past could play all day. ____
- d) The writer's grandmother was unhappy when she left home. ____
- e) People didn't have to work hard in the past. ____

When my grandmother was young, life for children was very different from today. My grandmother grew up on a farm, and I think she had more freedom than children do now. But even in the cities there were fewer cars, and children could play outside a lot more than today. My grandmother and her brothers and sisters certainly didn't have to do as much schoolwork as children do nowadays, but they couldn't play all day because they had to help on the farm and in the house. My grandmother left home when she was fourteen, and got a job working as a servant in a big house. That was the end of her childhood. She lived far away and couldn't visit her parents very often. She said she missed them very much. Everybody in the house had to work long hours every day. But on Sundays, my grandmother didn't have to go to work. She could spend the day doing whatever she wanted. When my grandmother was seventeen, she met my grandfather, got married, and had children. I think life then was hard, and childhood was short.