

REVISION PRACTICE

The most embarrassing moment of my life (Richard, Sussex)

Part 1

When I was about nine years old, I used to go to the cinema every Saturday morning – in those days it was very popular. After the film *had finished*, I would go to a toy shop and look at model planes and trains, and sometimes I bought them with the pocket money that I had been carefully saving. One day after the film, I went to a big department store to have a look at the model planes they had. I didn't buy anything, but as I was leaving, a very large man grabbed my arm quite violently and accused me of shoplifting.

The man said that he was a store detective. As I had been concentrating on the toys, I hadn't noticed that he had been watching me. He made me empty my pockets and he went through my coat, searching for stolen goods, even though I told him very clearly that I had only been looking. Of course, he didn't find anything, but by this time several people had stopped to see what was happening. I felt very embarrassed and humiliated that so many people were looking at me, and I was very glad to leave the shop when it was all over.



POOR RICHARD!

Now, read part 2 and complete with the correct form of the verb.

Part 2

An hour or so later, when I ¹ *was having* (have) lunch with my family at home, my father ² _____ (ask) me about the film. I then ³ _____ (mention) that I ⁴ _____ (look) at toys in a department store when a store detective ⁵ _____ (accuse) me of shoplifting and ⁶ _____ (search) me in the middle of the shop. My father ⁷ _____ (make) me repeat what I ⁸ _____ (say), and then immediately ⁹ _____ (jump up) from the table. Without either of us having finished our lunch, he ¹⁰ _____ (make) me get into the car. I ¹¹ _____ (never see) my father look so angry! He ¹² _____ (drive) quickly to the store, ¹³ _____ (park) outside, and took me to where the incident ¹⁴ _____ (take place). He then



demanded to see the manager and the store detective. When the manager ¹⁵ _____ (come), my father ¹⁶ _____ (start) shouting at him and he told him that I ¹⁷ _____ (never steal) anything in my life. He ¹⁸ _____ (make) the manager and store detective apologize to me for having accused me of shoplifting and for embarrassing me. But the thing is, I ¹⁹ _____ (find) this scene even more embarrassing than the first one, especially as I could see that a lot of customers ²⁰ _____ (stop) and ²¹ _____ (watch) us!

Read again and answer the following questions.

- a) What did Richard use to do?.....
- b) Does he like model planes and trains?
- c) What happened at the department store?

d) How would you feel if you were in that situation?

e) Why was his father so angry?

f) Where did they go after lunch?

g) Why do you think the second scene was even more embarrassing than the first one?

h) Have you ever been embarrassed ? Send Richard an email telling about your experience and your plan to escape.

Include the following information. Write about 120 words.

- WHERE WAS IT? WHO WERE YOU WITH?
- HOW OLD WERE YOU AT THAT TIME?
- WHAT WERE YOU DOING?/ WHAT HAPPENED?
- HOW DID YOU FEEL?
- HOW COULD YOU ESCAPE FROM THAT SITUATION?