

Grammar

- 1 Fill in the missing action verbs to complete a passage about the volcanic eruption that buried Pompeii underneath a thick blanket of ash in 79CE.

sputtered drifted erupted clogged
devoured collapsed grew poured

Mount Vesuvius, a volcano near the Bay of Naples in Italy, is hundreds of thousands of years old and has _____ more than 50 times. The most famous took place on the morning of 24 August, 79CE. It lasted for more than 24 hours.

Those who fled immediately had a chance of survival, but for those who stayed behind, conditions soon _____ unbearable. As more and more ash fell, it _____ the air, making it almost impossible to breathe. Buildings _____ . Then, a 'pyroclastic surge' (a 160-km-per-hour surge of superheated poison gas and crushed rock) _____ down the side of the mountain and _____ everything and everyone in its path.

By the time the Vesuvius eruption _____ to an end the next day, Pompeii was buried under millions of tons of volcanic ash. About 2000 people were dead. Some people _____ back to town in search of lost relatives or belongings, but there was not much left to find. Pompeii, along with the smaller neighbouring towns, was no more.