

A. Read three news stories.**“A good deed”**

1 A man who rescued a driver from a car that had been driven into Lopez Lake on Friday was fired because he could not make it into work after the rescue. David Wame, a 29-year-old father of two from San Luis Obispo, California, risked his life by diving into the lake, braving sharp rocks to save a 40-year-old man whose car had broken through a guard rail into the water.

Mr Wame was only three days into his job with Paradise Pool Interiors, but when he phoned his boss to tell her he could not work due to the deep cuts on his feet and arms, he was told he no longer had a job. "I rang her and said, I've saved a guy from drowning and I've got to go to hospital to get stitched up," Mr Wame said.

Owner Lesley Burke was not impressed by the good deed. A spokesman for the company said: "If Mr Wame had worked here longer, it would have been different." However, San Luis Obispo Police have recommended Mr Wame for a bravery award.

2 A small village in Mexico is richer than it was, thanks to a wealthy widow who died recently and left all her money to the village. She wanted to thank everyone for the welcome she received when she moved there. Everyone over 60 received 10,000 pesos, while other gifts included 200,000 pesos to the local church. "She was a lovely lady who was always thinking of others," said a neighbour, 63, about Rosa Flores. "She helped me with my household chores when I was sick. She was always doing favours for people. But I think she was lonely after her husband died because she had no children. If she'd had a family, she probably wouldn't have left all her money to the village. We're very, very grateful to her."

3 "Seriously, I've got a gun. Give me the money." So shouted robber Robert Hendry as he burst into a bank in Portsmouth in England, his gun hand hidden in a bag. Terrified staff were about to do what he'd asked, when a customer who'd been quietly reading his paper walked up to Hendry and said, "You're joking, aren't you, mate?" and took the empty bag. Then Terry Parker sat down and went on with his reading. Hendry ran away. "If Mr Parker hadn't got involved," said John Anderson, the bank manager, "then I'm sure the man would have robbed the bank."

B. Are these statements true or false?

- _____ 1 David Wame had worked with Paradise Pool Interiors for a long time.
- _____ 2 Rosa Flores left money to everyone in her village.
- _____ 3 Rosa didn't have family in the village.
- _____ 4 Robert Hendry tried to rob a bank with a gun.
- _____ 5 Terry Parker didn't believe the robber had a gun.

C. Complete the facts from the stories with these verbs in the correct form.

thank / leave / ~~rescue~~ / do / save / help / risk / think

- 1 A man who rescued a driver from a car that had been driven into Lopez Lake on Friday was fired.
- 2 David Warne _____ his life by diving into the lake.
- 3 I've _____ a guy from drowning and I've got to go to hospital.
- 4 A wealthy widow _____ all her money to the village.
- 5 She wanted to _____ everyone for the welcome she received.
- 6 She was a lovely lady who was always _____ of others.
- 7 She _____ me with my household chores when I was sick.
- 8 She was always _____ favours for people.

D. Read the following story reports on the BBC. Then complete the sentences below.

The students

I was living in South Korea at the time, teaching English. I had to leave the country and return again because of problems with my visa, so I booked a ferry to Fukuoka in Japan. I intended to change some Korean money into Japanese yen when I got there, but when I arrived I discovered it was a holiday in Japan and all the banks were closed. I didn't have a credit card, so I walked from the ferry terminal towards the town wondering what I was going to do without any Japanese money. I was feeling lonely and depressed when suddenly I heard a young couple speaking French. I asked them if they spoke any English, and they told me (in good English) that they were Belgian students. When I explained my problem, they immediately offered to take me around the city and look for somewhere where I could change money. They paid for my bus ticket, and they took me to several places and in the end we found a hotel where I was able to change my cash. They then invited me to join them and their friends for the evening. I had a fantastic night and have never forgotten how they changed all their plans just to help a stranger. - **Karina**

The angel

It was a cold Sunday evening in Manchester. I was a university student, and my girlfriend and I had been invited to dinner with our tutor at his house 30 km away. We decided to go on my motorbike, but we hadn't realized how cold it was, so we hadn't dressed properly, and after ten minutes on the bike we were absolutely freezing. When we were about half way there, the bike started to make a funny noise and then stopped. We had run out of petrol. We stood at the side of the road, shivering with cold, and not sure what to do. Suddenly a passing car stopped. The driver got out, opened the boot of his car, and took out a can of petrol. He walked up to my bike, opened the petrol tank, and poured the petrol in. He then closed the tank and got back into his car, without saying a single word, and drove away. We couldn't believe our luck. We sometimes wonder if the man who rescued us was an angel... - **Andy**

E. Complete the sentences below. Use your own ideas.

- If the couple hadn't helped Karina, _____.
- If the man in the car hadn't stopped, _____.