Getting polio

This task is about adding words to a text so that it makes sense.

Source: School Journal Part I, 1983.
(Text altered)

The following piece of writing has some spaces where words are missing.

First, read the whole piece of writing through to get an idea of what it is about. Then fill each space with **ONE** word so that the whole piece of writing makes sense. You are able to change answers as you go.

When you have filled in all the spaces, re-read the text to check that the whole piece of writing makes sense.

Getting polio

These days if you came home from school with a headache and a sore neck, people would probably think that you _____ [1] the meningitis. But years ago, a _____ [2] and a sore neck might have _____ [3] something else. You might have _____ [4] poliomyelitis (polio). Polio was a serious _____ [5] that children caught more often than _____ [6]. Mostly, these children got better quickly _____ [7] themselves. But sometimes the disease became _____ [8] worse. When this happened the muscles _____ [9] the children's arms and legs would _____ [10] working – they were paralysed. The children _____ [11] caught polio and became paralysed went _____ [12] hospital. Nurses massaged and skilfully moved _____ [13] arms and legs. The children sometimes _____ [14] exercises in special hot water baths. _____ [15] their legs were very weak, they _____ [16] needed iron braces to help them _____ [17]. Usually, the paralysed arms and legs _____ [18] got better. It frequently took _____ [19] months of treatment before they were _____ [20] completely.