

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