2. ALIVE

I was sent to Mozambique to investigate landmine accidents. One day, while I was in the safety lane, I stepped on a landmine. It was the 7 March, 1995. I shall never forget that day.

The day before, a young deminer named Orlando had been killed in an accident. This was most unusual, as deminers were extremely careful in their work. In fact, until that day not a single worker's life had been lost.

I went to investigate. The heat that day was intense. I worked very slowly, and it was past midday when I came across pieces of the landmine that had killed Orlando. I carefully put the pieces into a plastic bag. As I stood up, the world around me went black. I felt faint. I must have had too much sun.

I need to rest somewhere, I thought. I took three steps back along the safety lane. At the third step, I heard the loudest bang I have ever heard. The force of the explosion threw me hard against the ground.

I knew without a doubt what had happened. I tried to lift my right arm but it wouldn't move. I carefully sat up. My right hand was a pulp, as red as a squashed strawberry. My right leg had disappeared from the knee down. Around me there was a smell of gunpowder and burnt flesh.

I started to feel pain. Trying to stay calm, I shouted to one of my men: 'Frank, I've just stepped on a mine in the safety lane. My right leg is gone. My right arm is in pretty bad shape. Get on the radio. Find out whether a US AID helicopter can take me to hospital. And I need a stretcher.'

Frank wasted no time, and soon they came for me. As I was carried away, I knew that my life had changed forever.

EXERCISES (2)

Ａ　本文の内容に合うものにはＴ、合わないものにはＦを書きなさい．

(1) Orlando died while at work because he was not very careful. ( )

(2) I walked along the safety line to take a rest. ( )

(3) After I was injured, I didn't understand what had happened to me. ( )

(4) Frank was quick in following my directions. ( )

Ｂ　日本文の意味に合うように、（　）に適語を入れなさい．

(1) あなたのことを考えないで過ぎた日は１日もありません．

Not a ( ) day passes without my thinking of you.

(2) 海岸を歩いていると、美しい貝殻を見つけた．

I ( ) ( ) a beautiful shell when I was walking on the beach.

(3) おなかが痛い．食べ過ぎたにちがいない．

I have a stomachache. I must ( ) ( ) too much.

(4) こんな大きな魚は今までに見たことがありません．

This is the biggest fish I have ( ) ( ).

(5) 彼はドアを開けようとしたが、どうしても動かなかった．

He tried to open the door, but it ( ) move.