

Put the verbs in the correct tense

The one thing that is predictable about **earthquakes** (be) their unpredictability. On average, 100 quakes of the same magnitude as the one that (shake) Los Angeles last week (occur) every year. **Losses** from natural disasters (total) 3m deaths and hundreds of billions of dollars over the past twenty years. A 6.3 magnitude quake in Maharastra, western India, on September 29 last year (kill) more than 10,000 people in their homes and (leave) 30,000 injured. Last week's quake in Los Angeles, despite being twice as powerful, (kill) fewer than 50.

(Earthquakes = tremblements de terre. Losses = pertes.)

The Philippines is a fascinating country made up of over 7,000 tropical islands. Originally they (be all covered) with rainforest and surrounded by beautiful coral reefs. But of course this is not the case today. Pollution, over-fishing and tourist development (take) their toll over the last twenty years. But the tiny island of Danjungan (be) lucky so far. Almost all its original forest cover (remain) intact.

Miss Duncan, a woman in her mid-fifties, living alone in a comfortable flat, (be missing) for some four months when the police (be eventually contacted) by her doctor after she (miss) several appointments with him. Two days later two policemen (visit) the flat with a spare key obtained from her cleaner who (not/hear) from her fro weeks. They (find)..... nothing out of the ordinary. The flat (be) clean, quiet and tidy. After this they (go back) to the doctor who alert them in the first place. But he (be) unable to give any useful information. He said that he (last/see) her before the summer. Apparently no one (see) her leave.

The blue whale (migrate) each year from the polar regions to the sub-tropics. It (start) from Iceland and (reach) warmer waters later in the year. Scientists have just been told that a new species of whales (now/travel) in the waters of the Antarctic. It (seem) that the new species is a cross between whales and dolphins. Scientists (study) the problem very seriously.

Dear Eileen,

I hope you are fine. The doctor (1 come) yesterday. He (2 not like) my cough*. I (3 lie) in bed looking at the ceiling* since Tuesday, and I can tell you that I'm fed up with it. I (4 never be) ill like this before - don't now what's happening to me. And the weather (5 be) terrible. It (6 rain) all day, and I can't even have a cup of tea *to cheer myself up , because the milkman (7 not come) this morning. Don't know why - I (8 be) sure I (9 pay) his bill.

Alice (10 get married) last week, so now all Mary's kids (11 leave) home. She won't know what to do with herself, will she?

Lucy Watson (12 move) to Doncaster. Since Fred (13 die) she (14 be) all alone. It (15 be) a heart attack, apparently. I (16 be) sorry she (17 go) - we (18 be) neighbours for over forty years, and she (19 always be) friendly and ready to help out.

Amy (20 leave) My cleaning lady, you remember? I (21 be) glad. She (22 not be) much use, and I (23 not trust) her since she (24 break) all those plates and (25 say) it (26 be) the cat.

There (27 not be) much change in the village. Some people (28 take) over the shop. They (29 seem) quite nice. Hope they (30 be) more efficient than old Joe.

No more news. Write when you've got time.

Love, Emma

* (cough = toux; ceiling = plafond; to cheer myself up = me remonter le moral)