An Accident on the Hill (B1 · English B1)

Tekst / Transcript

Last summer my brother Tom decided to climb the hill behind our village. He is not a strong walker, but the weather was warm and the path looked easy. I went with him because I wanted to take photos of the valley. We started early, and for the first hour everything was fine.

After a while the path became steep and stony. Tom began to walk more slowly, and I could hear his breathing behind me. He stopped, put his hand on his chest and told me that his heart was beating very fast. I gave him some water and we sat on a flat rock. "Just breathe slowly," I said. He took a deep breath and closed his eyes for a moment. His face was red, and his bottom lip was dry and cracked from the sun.

Ten minutes later he felt better, so we continued. Unfortunately, Tom stepped on a loose stone and fell against a tree. He did not injure his back, but he hurt his left foot badly. When he took off his shoe, his big toe was already blue. He also felt a sharp pain in one muscle in his leg, and he could not stand up alone. Something else surprised us too: there was a small red bite on his arm, probably from an insect. His throat was dry and he wanted more water, but our bottle was empty.

I helped him back down the path very slowly. My injured brother leaned on my shoulder the whole way, and we stopped every few minutes. At the bottom, a neighbour saw us and drove us straight to the small clinic in town. The nurse looked at the foot and asked Tom to describe every symptom carefully: the pain, the swelling and the strange feeling in his toes. She also checked his mouth and asked him to show her his tongue, because she wanted to see if he was very thirsty. Luckily nothing was broken. Tom wore a bandage for two weeks and complained every single day. Now he says that he loves hills, but only from the window of a car.

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