

Punctuation Activity

This is an extract from a newspaper article. All the punctuation, paragraphs and capital letters have been left out. Correct the article by putting the punctuation and capital letters in where needed. Indicate a new paragraph with a double forward slash (//).

stray saves the day

by charles harwood

a man trapped under his own tractor was rescued yesterday by a stray dog he had met only an hour earlier

peter thornton of ashton in the wold was ploughing a potato field on his arable farm at around 3pm on wednesday his tractor started to make an unfamiliar noise and the business minded grower decided to have a look at it himself you cant afford to get a mechanic out at the first sign of trouble he said you have to become a bit of an expert with machinery yourself unfortunately as peter crawled underneath the vehicle to examine a loose part hanging down the tractor rolled forward and pinned him to the ground by his leg stupidly id left my mobile phone in the cab he reports shaking his head i thought id be stuck there until dusk which is when id be missed the pain was unbearable i thought i was going to pass out then the unexpected happened a stray dog that peter had seen earlier in the day approached the tractor and appeared very interested in what was going on he sniffed around and eventually sneaked under the tractor to where peter was trapped when i saw the dog i didnt know what to think if hed decided to attack me then there wasnt anything i could do about it but the dog didnt attack peter instead it began licking him and when he still didnt move the dog began to bark the border collie cross then ran around the tractor in a wide arc and barked and barked he kept this up for a full 30 minutes eventually some rambblers nearby came to see why this dog was barking so ferociously one of the rambblers dave podton remembers the scene wed been able to hear the dog for some time as we were walking near to the perimeter of the field when we eventually saw it we couldnt understand what it was doing it was running round and round the tractor then under the tractor then round and round barking all the while it struck us that it was strange to see a sheep dog on an arable farm then one of our number margaret suggested we investigate the tractor as it looked like it had been abandoned in the middle of the field i dont mind telling you i wasnt keen i thought the dog must be mad but margaret is a dog lover and she took the lead

Punctuation Activity Answers

This is the original text with correct punctuation, capital letters and paragraphs.

Stray Saves the Day!

by Charles Harwood

A man trapped under his own tractor was rescued yesterday by a stray dog he had met only an hour earlier.

Peter Thornton of Ashton-in-the-Wold was ploughing a potato field on his arable farm at around 3pm on Wednesday. His tractor started to make an unfamiliar noise and the business-minded grower decided to have a look at it himself. 'You can't afford to get a mechanic out at the first sign of trouble,' he said 'you have to become a bit of an expert with machinery yourself.' Unfortunately, as Peter crawled underneath the vehicle to examine a loose part hanging down, the tractor rolled forward and pinned him to the ground by his leg. 'Stupidly, I'd left my mobile phone in the cab,' he reports, shaking his head, 'I thought I'd be stuck there until dusk, which is when I'd be missed. The pain was unbearable, I thought I was going to pass out.'

Then the unexpected happened. A stray dog, that Peter had seen earlier in the day, approached the tractor and appeared very interested in what was going on. He sniffed around and eventually sneaked under the tractor to where Peter was trapped. 'When I saw the dog I didn't know what to think. If he'd decided to attack me then there wasn't anything I could do about it.' But the dog didn't attack Peter, instead it began licking him and when he still didn't move the dog began to bark. The border collie cross then ran around the tractor in a wide arc and barked and barked. He kept this up for a full 30 minutes. Eventually, some rambblers nearby came to see why this dog was barking so ferociously.

One of the rambblers, Dave Podton, remembers the scene. 'We'd been able to hear the dog for some time as we were walking near to the perimeter of the field. When we eventually saw it, we couldn't understand what it was doing. It was running round and round the tractor, then under the tractor, then round and round, barking all the while. It struck us that it was strange to see a sheep dog on an arable farm. Then one of our number, Margaret, suggested we investigate the tractor as it looked like it had been abandoned in the middle of the field. I don't mind telling you, I wasn't keen. I thought the dog must be mad. But Margaret is a dog lover and she took the lead.'