

EXERCISE 5

*Improve the wording of the following :*

1. They were a very jolly bunch of boys and girls.
2. He enthuses over football.
3. What a cute child.
4. I reckon that that is true.
5. He went hustling down the street.
6. The murderer was hung this morning.
7. We were nowhere near home.
8. He goes crazy over athletics.
9. It is up to you to decide.
10. He began to chew the rag and we had a scrap.
11. I want badly to meet him.
12. I could of gone.
13. That there picture is a landscape.
14. Do you take French?
15. I haven't got your book with me.
16. He made heaps of money.
17. Where is the hired girl?
18. Did you have anything in the refreshment line?
19. There were a lot of boys in the park.
20. I shall go a piece with you.

5. ORAL NARRATION; COLLOQUIAL LANGUAGE

Very often, instead of writing a story, we tell it orally ; and some of the points to which we must give attention in telling it are different from those to which we must give attention in writing.

In writing, we must, as we have seen, give particular attention to punctuation, spelling, and paragraphing. But, as a matter of course, we do not need to consider these points in telling a story orally.

In writing, moreover, we sometimes include a good deal of detail, since the reader has the whole of the story before him and can at any time look back to what has gone before ; but in telling a story orally, we must choose only such facts as the audience can easily bear in mind. It naturally follows that an oral narrative is generally much shorter than a written story, and that it includes much less detail.