

Instructions: Read the whole text carefully prior to working on the task. Put each verb in brackets into an appropriate verb tense. This task is to estimate your knowledge of English tenses, modal verbs, conditionals, and reported speech. (Note: sometimes you are given a word in parenthesis that divides the verb. Please, put the word into its correct syntactical position.)

Scuba diving (1)_____ (modal/invent) much earlier than it is usually (2)_____ (believe). There (3)_____ (be) records of primitive scuba diving attempts (4)_____ (to date) back to the antiquity. 'The ancient scuba divers used dried reed instead of snorkels, and they (5)_____ (able/spend) long periods of time under the water, J. M., a national Museum curator (6)_____ (explain). Although, according to the curator, ancient divers (7)_____ (able/spend) a long time submerged, the question (8)_____ (remain): Could this practice be regarded as a forerunner of the modern scuba diving? But what if proof of an ancient prototype of an air tank (9)_____ (emerge)? K.D., of the National History Institute claims we might be very close to such a colossal discovery that (10)_____ (completely/change) the way we perceive the history of diving.

Key:

Scuba diving **could have been invented** much earlier than it is usually **believed**. There **are** records of primitive scuba diving attempts **dating** back to the antiquity. 'The ancient scuba divers used dried reed instead of snorkels, and they **were able to spend** long periods of time under the water, J. M., a national Museum curator **explained/explains**. Although, according to the curator, ancient divers **had been able to spend/were able** a long time submerged, the question **remains**: Could this practice be regarded as a forerunner of the modern scuba diving? But what if proof of an ancient prototype of an air tank **emerged/emerges**? K.D., of the National History Institute claims we might be very close to such a colossal discovery that **will completely change** the way we perceive the history of diving.