**Simple Past and Past Continuous**

**Exercise 1**

**Using the words in parentheses, complete the text below with the appropriate tenses.**

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1. A: What (you, do) **** when the accident occurred?
 B: I (try) **** to change a light bulb that had burnt out.

2. After I (find) **** the wallet full of money, I (go, immediately) **** to the police and (turn) **** it in.

3. The doctor (say) **** that Tom (be) **** too sick to go to work and that he (need) **** to stay at home for a couple of days.

4. Sebastian (arrive) **** at Susan's house a little before 9:00 PM, but she (be, not) **** there. She (study, at the library) **** for her final examination in French.

5. Sandy is in the living room watching television. At this time yesterday, she (watch, also) **** television. That's all she ever does!

6. A: I (call) **** you last night after dinner, but you (be, not) **** there. Where were you?
 B: I (work) **** out at the fitness center.

7. When I (walk) **** into the busy office, the secretary (talk) **** on the phone with a customer, several clerks (work, busily) **** at their desks, and two managers (discuss, quietly) **** methods to improve customer service.

8. I (watch) **** a mystery movie on TV when the electricity went out. Now I am never going to find out how the movie ends.

9. Sharon (be) **** in the room when John told me what happened, but she didn't hear anything because she (listen, not) ****.

10. It's strange that you (call) **** because I (think, just) **** about you.

11. The Titanic (cross) **** the Atlantic when it (strike) **** an iceberg.

12. When I entered the bazaar, a couple of merchants (bargain, busily) **** and (try) **** to sell their goods to naive tourists who (hunt) **** for souvenirs. Some young boys (lead) **** their donkeys through the narrow streets on their way home. A couple of men (argue) **** over the price of a leather belt. I (walk) **** over to a man who (sell) **** fruit and (buy) **** a banana.

13. The firemen (rescue) **** the old woman who (be) **** trapped on the third floor of the burning building.

14. She was so annoying! She (leave, always) **** her dirty dishes in the sink. I think she (expect, actually) **** me to do them for her.

15. Samantha (live) **** in Berlin for more than two years. In fact, she (live) **** there when the Berlin Wall came down.

**Exercise 2**.

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Last night, while I was doing my homework, Angela (call) ****. She said she (call) **** me on her cell phone from her biology classroom at UCLA. I asked her if she (wait) **** for class, but she said that the professor was at the front of the hall lecturing while she (talk) ****to me. I couldn't believe she (make) **** a phone call during the lecture. I asked what was going on.

She said her biology professor was so boring that several of the students (sleep, actually) **** in class. Some of the students (talk) **** about their plans for the weekend and the student next to her (draw) **** a picture of a horse. When Angela (tell) **** me she was not satisfied with the class, I (mention) **** that my biology professor was quite good and (suggest) **** that she switch to my class.

While we were talking, I (hear) **** her professor yell, "Miss, are you making a phone call?" Suddenly, the line went dead. I (hang) ****up the phone and went to the kitchen to make dinner. As I (cut) **** vegetables for a salad, the phone rang once again. It (be) ****Angela, but this time she wasn't sitting in class.

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