

Past Tense – Simple or Progressive: Fill in the correct form.

1. George _____ off the ladder while he _____ the ceiling. (**fall, paint**)
2. Last night I _____ in bed when I suddenly _____ a scream. (**read, hear**)
3. _____ TV when I _____ you? (**you watch, phone**)
4. Ann _____ for me when I _____. (**wait, arrive**)
5. Maisie _____ up the kitchen when John _____ her to marry him. (**clean, ask**)
6. The house _____ £ 150,000 in 2003. (**cost**)
7. The fire _____ at six in the morning. (**still burn**)
8. My brother _____ a new job a week ago (**get**).
9. Columbus _____ America over 500 years ago (**discover**)
10. She _____ not interested in the book because she _____ it (**be, not understand**)
11. _____ at school yesterday? (**you be**)
12. We _____ in a house near the sea last summer (**live**)
13. She _____ the piano very well when she _____ young (**can play, be**)
14. She _____ the office very early last night (**leave**).
15. I _____ a friend while I _____ the shopping (**meet, do**)
16. I _____ for my things when I _____ someone call my name (**pay, hear**)
17. I _____ around and _____ Judy. (**turn, see**)
18. She _____ a bright yellow dress when I _____ her last (**wear, see**)
19. We _____ to have a cup of tea. (**decide**)
20. While the waiter _____ up the pieces of glass he _____ his finger (**pick, cut**)
21. Then we _____ the cafe and _____ good bye (**leave, say**)
22. I _____ the fire at six and it _____ brightly when Tom came in at seven. (**light, still burn**)
23. My dog _____ along quietly when Mary's Pekinese _____ him. (**walk, attack**)
24. When I _____ she _____ lunch. She said she always _____ lunch at 12:30. (**arrive, have, have**)
25. What _____ of his last book? –I _____ it a lot (**you think, like**)
26. He suddenly _____ that he _____ in the wrong direction. (**realize, travel**)
27. He _____ guitar when someone _____ the window and _____ out a bucket of water. (**play, open, throw**)
28. He _____ us to go out in the boat yesterday because a strong wind _____ (**not allow, blow**)
29. The next day, as they _____ that the police _____ for them, they _____ the coats in the woods and _____ off in different directions. (**know, look, hide, go**)
30. When I _____ home they _____ around a fire. Jack _____ a crossword puzzle, Judy _____ and the others _____. Mother _____ at me and said : " Come and sit down" (**come, sit, do, knit, read, smile**)

Fill in the correct form of the past tense.

1. I _____ my old friend in town the other day. He _____ to ignore me and _____ somewhere else. **(SEE, SEEM, LOOK)**
2. The teacher _____ a photo of us while we _____ up the tree. **(TAKE, CLIMB)**
3. We _____ Martha at the airport last week. She _____ for the arrival of her sister while we _____ to New York. **(MEET, WAIT, TRAVEL)**
4. "What _____ to him? - He _____ totally surprised when I _____ him." - **(YOU SAY, LOOK, SEE)**
5. He _____ exam papers when I _____ him. **(CORRECT, VISIT)**
6. A man _____ on the road while I _____ my bike. Luckily, I _____ not to crash into him. **(FALL, RIDE, MANAGE)**
7. We _____ a few miles off the coast when a horrible thunderstorm _____ up. We _____ to get to safety as soon as possible. **(SAIL, COME, HAVE)**
8. I haven't seen him for ages. When I last _____ him, he _____ for a new job. **(SEE, LOOK)**
9. While the two teams _____ up everyone _____ a flag. It _____ a very emotional moment. **(WARM, WAVE, BE)**
10. "What _____ when I _____ to your place yesterday evening?" - "I _____ the baby". **(YOU DO, COME, FEED)**
11. I _____ down a dark alley when suddenly I _____ footsteps. I _____ around and _____ that an old woman with a dog _____ me. **(WALK, HEAR, TURN, SEE, FOLLOW)**
12. "Why _____ out last night?" - "I _____ too tired and _____ to stay at home." **(YOU NOT GO, BE, DECIDE)**
13. The policeman asked me, " How fast _____ when you _____ the old lady in front of you?" **(YOU DRIVE, SEE)**
14. Mom _____ dinner when we _____ home from football practice. **(PREPARE, GET)**
15. When I _____ young, I always _____ to be a pilot. **(BE, WANT)**
16. Las Sunday afternoon I _____ for a walk in the park and _____ a cup of coffee at a local restaurant. **(GO, HAVE)**
17. When they _____ to the airport the plane _____ off. **(GET, JUST TAKE)**
18. I _____ on a bench in the park when a man _____ up to me and _____ to know what time it _____. **(SIT, COME, WANT, BE)**

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1. I _____ Sue in town yesterday, but she _____ me. She _____ the other way. (**see, not see, look**)
2. I _____ Tom and Jane at the airport a few weeks ago. They _____ to Berlin and I _____ to Madrid. We _____ a chat while we _____ for our flights. (**meet, go, go, have, wait**)
3. I _____ home yesterday when suddenly a man _____ out into the road in front of me. I _____ quite fast but luckily I _____ to stop in time and _____ him. (**cycle, step, go, manage, not hit**)
4. Jerry _____ for me when I _____. (**wait, arrive**)
5. "What _____ at this time yesterday?" – "I was asleep." (**you do**)
6. "_____ out last night?" – "No, I was too tired". (**you go**)
7. "Was Carol at the party last night?" – "Yes she _____ a really nice dress." (**wear**)
8. How fast _____ when the accident _____ ? (**you drive, happen**)
9. John _____ a photo of me while I _____. (**take, not look**)
10. We _____ in a very difficult position. We _____ what to do. (**be, not know**)
11. I haven't seen Alan for ages. When I last _____ him, he _____ to find a job in Leeds (**see, try**)
12. I _____ along the street when suddenly I _____ footsteps behind me. Somebody _____ me. I was frightened and _____ to run. (**walk, hear, follow, start**)
13. When I _____ young I _____ to be a bus driver. (**be, want**)
14. While Mike _____ TV Sheila _____ a book. (**watch, read**)
15. She _____ for the bus when I _____ her yesterday. (**wait, see**)
16. On Sunday I _____ for a walk and then I _____ the museum. (**go, visit**)
17. He _____ lunch when the first guests _____. (**prepare, arrive**)
18. She _____ when she suddenly _____ a strange noise. (**sleep, hear**)
19. We _____ on the lake when a terrible thunderstorm _____ up. (**sail, come**)
20. Some minutes later his friend _____ to take him to the airport. (**come**)
21. While his friend _____ the car, John _____ about his holidays. (**drive, talk**)
22. John _____ a shower when the telephone _____. (**have, ring**)
23. When they _____ at the airport, the plane _____ high above their heads. (**arrive, already fly**)
24. They _____ to the restaurant and _____ a cup of coffee. (**go, have**)
25. While the football teams _____ up, the fans _____ their flags. (**warm, wave**)

Fill in the correct form of the past tense.

1. My friend Harry _____ off the ladder while he _____ the ceiling of his room. **(FALL, PAINT)**
2. We _____ the house in 2003. At that time it _____ £ 150,000. **(BUY, COST)**
3. Dad _____ interested in buying a new car. **(NOT BE)**
4. My sister _____ for me at the airport terminal when I _____. **(WAIT, ARRIVE)**
5. A few nights ago, I _____ a book when suddenly I _____ a noise outside. A few teenagers _____ loud music. **(READ, HEAR, PLAY)**
6. The fire _____ when the first firefighters _____ at the scene. **(STILL BURN, ARRIVE)**
7. My brother _____ for a job when he _____ across an interesting ad in the newspaper. **(LOOK, COME)**
8. I _____ someone call my name. I _____ around and _____ my dad standing at the back of the queue. I _____ so surprised. **(HEAR, TURN, SAW, BE)**
9. My sister _____ a bright summer dress when I _____ her at the performance. **(WEAR, SEE)**
10. I _____ preparing dinner at 4.p.m and I _____ still at it when my wife _____ home. **(START, BE, COME)**
11. Our housekeeper _____ the vase. As she _____ up the pieces, she _____ her middle finger. **(BREAK, PICK, CUT)**
12. We suddenly _____ that we _____ in the wrong direction. **(REALISE, DRIVE)**
13. She _____ a great skier when she was young. **(BE)**
14. I _____ an old friend in town while I _____ the shopping. **(MEET, DO)**
15. While the children _____ with others my husband and I _____ to have a cup of coffee. **(PLAY, DECIDE)**
16. Magellan _____ around the world for the first time 500 years ago. **(SAIL)**
17. I _____ my dog for a walk in the park when suddenly another dog _____ him. **(TAKE, ATTACK)**
18. When I _____ back from town everyone was at home. Mum _____ homework. Dad _____ the car and my sister Julia _____ on her school project. **(COME, CORRECT, WASH, WORK)**