



Complete the conversation with the correct idioms in the correct form.

**a crossed line      gone dead      were cut of      put me through      take the call  
hold the line      out of order      get through      ring off      the line was engaged**

I've been trying to ring my brother Nick at work, but I couldn't 1\_\_\_\_\_ to him. First of all, it took me half an hour to find a phone-box that worked - the first three I went into were all 2\_\_\_\_\_. I dialled Nick's number and heard it ringing, then there was silence, nothing! The line had simply 3\_\_\_\_\_. I dialled again and got a wrong number.

The third time, Nick must have been phoning someone himself because 4\_\_\_\_\_.

At the fourth try I had 5\_\_\_\_\_ - I could hear two people having a rather personal conversation.

The fifth time, I managed to speak to Nick's secretary. I asked her to 6\_\_\_\_\_ to Nick. She told me to 7\_\_\_\_\_ and I heard her ask Nick if he wanted to 8\_\_\_\_\_.

Of course he said "Yes" and we exchanged a few words, then for some reason we 9\_\_\_\_\_ and we lost the connection.

By this time, I was very angry. I dialled a sixth time, but it was a bad line, so I had to 10\_\_\_\_\_. When I tried again later, the secretary told me Nick had left the office for the afternoon!

'How annoying! But tell me, what was it that you wanted to tell your brother so urgently?'

'That my home telephone's out of order!'

Nick was the head of the fault section at British Telecom.'

