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Put the verbs in brackets into the past simple or the past continuous.

A The sun 1) ...*was shining*... (shine) and the birds 2) (sing) as Mike 3) (drive) down the country lane. He 4) (smile), because he 5) (look forward) to the journey ahead. Mike 6) (enjoy) driving, especially when he 7) (go) somewhere new. Then, suddenly, the engine 8) (begin) to make a strange noise and the car 9) (stop) dead in the middle of the road. Mike 10) (try) to start it, but nothing 11) (happen). He 12) (sigh), then 13) (get out) of the car. As he 14) (push) the car to the side of the road, Mike 15) (start) to wish he had stayed at home.