BUSINESS DIARY: Paul Trout, John Watson

a. Fill in the blanks using the correct form of the verbs.

Remember: Present, Past or Future?

Paul Trout and John Watson are the founders of "Shirts-a-Million", a company that _____ (make) luxury shirts. Their company _____ (be) in Virginia, USA. They _____ (open) their first store 3 years ago.

Paul and John usually _____ (get) to the office at about 8:30. Paul _____ (drive) a hybrid car, but John _____ (not like) cars. He _____ (ride) a motorbike. They _____ (do) about 95% of their business online, and _____ (sell) about 3,500 shirts a month. They usually _____ (sell) 5% of their shirts in their 2 stores in Richmond, Virginia. This year the company _____ (sell) more and more, but they _____ (not know) why. Anyway, they _____ (be) all very excited about their sales.

The company _____ (have) 5 full-time employees. They _____ (not have) official meetings. They talk to each other on the phone. At lunchtime, some of them _____ (go) to the shops and _____ (talk) to customers. They almost always _____ (spend) 25% of the day on the phone with their web designer. The website _____ (take) a lot of time and money.

To raise money, $300,000, to open "Shirts-a-Million", they _____ (ask) 20 friends from their business school to invest money. At the beginning, their friends _____ (be) a bit nervous, but now they _____ (be) really happy! The company _____ (make) a lot of money! They also _____ (wear) the shirts and _____ (introduce) their colleagues to the company. For example, a new investor who _____ (work) in a large insurance company in Dallas _____ (wear) their shirts all last month and last week they _____ (get) 12 more customers from Dallas. Paul also _____ (administrate) a fan page on Facebook and _____ (manage) the company twitter account. He is really very busy.

It's 1 pm but they _____ (not talk) to customers and they _____ (not work) at the office either. Why? Because they _____ at the bank. They _____ (meet) at the office 2 hours ago but now they _____ (meet) with an account manager because they _____ (want) to add new items to their catalog. Paul _____ (love) their shirts but John would like to make pants too. Last week they _____ (schedule) a meeting with the bank manager, but he _____ (not be) there. He _____ (be) sick so he _____ (go) home. The account manager _____ (explain) to them how to plan for next year. They _____ (meet) again next week because now they _____ (not know) when the pants will be ready.

b. Think of 5 questions you'd like to ask Paul and John