THE CAR ACCIDENT SCENE; The Curious Case of Benjamin Button

Sometimes we're on a collision course, and we just don't know it. Whether it's by accident or by design, there's not a thing we can do about it:

A woman in Paris _____(be) on her way to go shopping, but _____(forget) her coat - went back to get it. When she _____(get) her coat, the phone _____(ring), so she'd stopped to answer it; talked for a couple of minutes.

While the woman _____(be) on the phone, Daisy _____(rehearse) for a performance at the Paris Opera House. And while she _____(rehearse), the woman, off the phone now, _____(go) outside to get a taxi.

Now a taxi driver _____(drop off) a fare earlier and _____(stop) to get a cup of coffee. And all the while, Daisy _____(rehearse). And this cab driver, who dropped off the earlier fare; who_____(stop) to get the cup of coffee, _____(pick up) the lady who was going to shopping, and _____ (miss) getting an earlier cab.

The taxi _____(have) to stop for a man crossing the street, who _____(leave) for work five minutes later than he normally _____(do), because he _____(forget) to set off his alarm. While that man, late for work, _____(cross) the street, Daisy _____(finish) rehearsing, and _____(take) a shower. And while Daisy _____(shower), the taxi _____ (wait) outside a boutique for the woman to pick up a package, which hadn't been wrapped yet, because the girl who was supposed to wrap it _____(break up) with her boyfriend the night before, and _____(forget).

When the package was wrapped, the woman, who _____(be) back in the cab, was blocked by a delivery truck, all the while Daisy_____ (get dressed). The delivery truck _____(pull away) and the taxi was able to move, while Daisy, the last to be dressed,_____ (wait) for one of her friends, who_____ (break) a shoelace.

While the taxi was stopped, waiting for a traffic light, Daisy and her friend_____(come) out the back of the theatre.

And if only one thing had happened differently; if that shoelace hadn't broken! or that delivery truck had moved moments earlier! or that package had been wrapped and ready, because the girl hadn't broken up with her boyfriend! or that man had set his alarm and got up five minutes earlier! or that taxi driver hadn't stopped for a cup of coffee! Or that woman had remembered her coat, and got into an earlier cab, Daisy and her friend would've crossed the street, and the taxi would've driven by. But life being what it is - a series of intersecting lives and incidents, out of anyone's control - that taxi did not go by, and that driver was momentarily distracted, and that taxi hit Daisy, and her leg was crushed.

LIVEWORKSHEETS