Grammar in a text. Complete the newspaper report with past perfect progressives. Choose verbs from the box.

drive	lie	repair	work

John Latton, 39, an engineer at Felton Plastics in Upton, had a lucky escape after an accident on the A34 in the early hours of the morning. Mr Latton fell asleep while driving and crashed into a pile of sand left by workers who [1] ..... the road.

When he left Felton Plastics at 3.00 this morning, Mr Latton [2] ..... for 72 hours without any sleep.

A passing motorist discovered the accident after the engineer [3] ..... in his car with a broken leg for half an hour. Ambulance workers said that if Mr Latton [4] ..... any faster his injuries might have been much worse.

Read the text and answer the questions. Use past perfect progressives.

On Tuesday afternoon, everyone in my family was very busy – except me. During the afternoon Helen repaired her car; Robert practised his karate; Kate did some gardening; Stephanie played tennis; Roger swam for half an hour; Rebecca went horse-riding; Philip painted the ceiling in his room light blue. I spent the afternoon sitting reading.

▶ Who had black grease on her hands at teatime? Why?
Helen, because she had been repairing her car.

1 Who had dirt on her hands and knees? Why?
.....

2 Who was wearing a short white skirt? Why?
.....

3 Who was wearing a white jacket and trousers and a black belt? Why?
.....

4 Who was wearing high boots and a hard hat? Why?
.....

5 Whose hair had light blue streaks in it? Why?
.....

6 Whose hair was all wet? Why?
.....

LIVEWORKSHEETS

dance draw look play ✓sing study talk

SITUATION: Ms. Reed, a teacher, left the classroom for fifteen minutes. During that time, her students did whatever they wanted. When she came back, ...

1. She learned that a few students *had been singing* loudly.
2. She found out that a couple of students _____ on cell phones.
3. Someone told her that one student _____ loud music.
4. She heard that several students _____ in the aisles.
5. She found out that a group of students _____ in her grade book.
6. She saw that a couple of students _____ pictures on the board.
7. She happily discovered that a few students _____ the whole time.

Circle the correct verb.

1. I'm studying English. I (*have been studying / had been studying*) English for several years now.
2. I came from Malaysia to live in New Zealand in 2002. I (*have been studying / had been studying*) English for three years before that.
3. Shhh! I want to see the end of this TV show! I (*have been waiting / had been waiting*) to find out who the murderer is.
4. Laura finally called me last night. I hadn't heard from her in four months. I (*have been waiting / had been waiting*) for that call for a long time!
5. Before Ada became a veterinarian last year, she (*has been working / had been working*) as a veterinarian's assistant while she was in school.
6. Li is going to quit his job. He (*has been working / had been working*) too many hours for too little money in this job. He is probably going to hand in his resignation next week.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

1. a. When the rain stopped, Gloria was riding her bicycle to work.
   b. When the rain stopped, Paul jumped on his bicycle and rode to work.

   QUESTION: Who got wet on the way to work?

   ANSWER: Gloria.

2. a. Ms. Lincoln taught at this school for nine years.
   b. Mr. Sanchez has taught at this school for nine years.

   QUESTION: Who is teaching at this school now?

3. a. Alice was opening the door when the doorbell rang.
   b. George walked to the door after the doorbell rang.

   QUESTION: Who had been expecting a visitor?

4. a. Donna lived in Chicago for five years.
   b. Carlos has been living in Chicago for five years.

   QUESTION: Who still lives in Chicago?

5. a. Jane put some lotion on her face because she had been lying in the sun.
   b. Sue put some lotion on her face because she was lying in the sun.

   QUESTION: Who put lotion on her face after she finished sunbathing?

6. a. I looked across the street. Mr. Fox was waving at me.
   b. I looked across the street. Mrs. Cook waved at me.

   QUESTION: Who began to wave at me before I looked across the street?

7. a. Dan was leaving the room when I walked in.
   b. Sam had left the room when I walked in.

   QUESTION: Who did I see when I came into the room?

8. a. Ken went to the store because he was running out of food.
   b. Ann went to the store because she had run out of food.

   QUESTION: Who is better at planning ahead?

9. a. Jack had been studying Spanish since he was in elementary school. He spoke it very well by the time he moved to Peru.
   b. Robert has been studying Spanish since he was in elementary school. His Spanish is getting quite good.

   QUESTION: Who is studying Spanish in school?

LIVEWORKSHEETS