

Complete the sentences with the past simple or continuous form of the verb in brackets.

1. Our company _____ (lose) money at an alarming rate but then in 2010 we _____ (launch) our Hermes 5 tablet computer. Sales _____ (go up) dramatically and our financial situation _____ (improve) rapidly.
2. We _____ (have) a successful negotiation when suddenly our boss _____ (phone) us to say he _____ (want) completely different conditions.
3. We _____ (plan) to patent our new drug but we _____ (wait) far too long. A month after our discovery, our main competitor _____ (sell) basically the same product.
4. Julia _____ (decide) to take a few months off in 2001, when she _____ (work) for Clairval Cosmetics. While she _____ (tour) New Zealand, she _____ (develop) an interest in Maori culture. She _____ (take) samples of some of the plants used in their rituals because she _____ (believe) they could be used in some of her company's products.