

**B. Conversation.** Tell about an unusual event in your life. Describe what you and others were doing at the time and what happened. Examples of events: a traffic accident, an earthquake, a fire, and so on.

### Fill It In

**Tenses in Context.** Fill in the blanks in the following story with the **simple past** or **past continuous**. Remember that more than one tense may be possible in some of the blanks.

#### **A Strange Day on Planet Zenon**

This is XR 101, Planet Zenon News. I'm talking to little TQ005 who has an amazing story to tell. TQ, can you tell us what (1)\_\_\_\_\_ (happen) yesterday?

We (2)\_\_\_\_\_ (have) a normal Sunday afternoon when something unbelievable (3)\_\_\_\_\_ (happen). Dad (4)\_\_\_\_\_ (dig) craters in the backyard while Mom (5)\_\_\_\_\_ (punch) our dinner order into the computer. My sister, RQ005, (6)\_\_\_\_\_ (check) the computer printout to make sure it (7)\_\_\_\_\_ (match) what Mom (8)\_\_\_\_\_ (order). My brother, PQ005, (9)\_\_\_\_\_ (repair) his rocket. My younger sister, VQ005, and her friend (10)\_\_\_\_\_ (do) experiments in her laboratory when the trouble (11)\_\_\_\_\_ (begin).

I (12)\_\_\_\_\_ (oil) my robot when suddenly it (13)\_\_\_\_\_ (sound) its warning alarm. When the alarm (14)\_\_\_\_\_ (begin) to ring, everyone (15)\_\_\_\_\_ (stop) what they (16)\_\_\_\_\_ (do). We (17)\_\_\_\_\_ (try) to find out why the alarm (18)\_\_\_\_\_ (ring) when a strange object (19)\_\_\_\_\_ (appear) in the sky. It (20)\_\_\_\_\_ (seem) to be coming directly toward us. And in a few minutes, it (21)\_\_\_\_\_ (land) right in Dad's newly made crater. We all (22)\_\_\_\_\_ (hold) our breath. While we (23)\_\_\_\_\_ (watch), one of the doors slowly (24)\_\_\_\_\_ (open). Then two of the ugliest creatures I've ever seen (25)\_\_\_\_\_ (step) into the doorway. I (26)\_\_\_\_\_ (hide) my eyes from the horrible sight when they (27)\_\_\_\_\_ (begin) coming closer. The robot (28)\_\_\_\_\_ (begin) to examine them as they (29)\_\_\_\_\_ (approach). When the robot's arm (30)\_\_\_\_\_ (reach) out to grab them, the two creatures (31)\_\_\_\_\_ (run) back into their ship and (32)\_\_\_\_\_ (begin) to take off again. As the ship (33)\_\_\_\_\_ (climb) back up to the sky, I (34)\_\_\_\_\_ (see) the strange markings on the side that (35)\_\_\_\_\_ (look) like this: "Planet Earth."