Last Saturday (1) **was** *(is)* a very strange day for me. First, I (2) **got up** *(get up)* at about seven o’clock in the morning, and after that I (3) **went** *(go)* downstairs to have breakfast with my family. I was drinking a glass of orange juice when, suddenly, the phone (4) **rang** *(ring)*. “Stewart, you have to come to my place,” my friend said. “Please be here in thirty minutes. I need your help!” Then, he (5) **hung up** *(hang up)* the phone. …

**Now, finish the story. Use the past tense … and your imagination!**

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**Grammar Focus**  Past Tense  
**Level**  Intermediate

### Activity Notes

**First,** have your students complete the sentences at the top of the page by writing the past tense forms of the words in parentheses. (One handout per student)

**Then,** have your students work together in pairs to discuss what happened next in the story. They should each write exactly the same words on their own papers. You might want to write a few words on the board for the students to use in their writing. For longer stories, students can use the back of the page, or an additional paper. Make sure they give their finished stories a title.

**Finally,** have your students switch partners and read aloud their stories. If student interest is high, consider switching one more time.

**Wrap-up** by having one or two students read aloud their work to the class. Then, collect the papers and correct any grammatical, capitalization or spelling mistakes that you want to focus on.

**In the next class,** give your students a chance to re-write their corrected work. Then, collect their finished product, and tape it to the walls for their classmates to stand up and read.

### Paragraph Answer Key

1. was  
2. got up  
3. went  
4. rang  
5. hung up

*My Notes*