

1. Use either the simple past or the preterite BE+ING.

I (buy) \_\_\_\_\_ a new alarm clock the other day in Taylor's the jewellers,  
when I actually (see) \_\_\_\_\_ somebody shoplifting.  
I'd just finished paying for my clock and as I (turn) \_\_\_\_\_ round, an  
elderly woman (slowly put) \_\_\_\_\_ a silver plate  
into a bag that she (carry) \_\_\_\_\_.  
Then she (walk) \_\_\_\_\_ over to another part of the shop  
and (pick up) \_\_\_\_\_ an expensive-looking watch a number of times.  
When she (think) \_\_\_\_\_ that nobody  
(look) \_\_\_\_\_, she (drop) \_\_\_\_\_ it into the  
bag.  
Before I (have) \_\_\_\_\_ a chance to tell the staff in the shop,  
she (notice) \_\_\_\_\_ that I (watch) \_\_\_\_\_ her  
and (hurry) \_\_\_\_\_ out. Unfortunately for her,  
two police officers (walk) \_\_\_\_\_ past just at that moment  
and she (run) \_\_\_\_\_ straight into them.

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