Fill in the correct form of the past tense: simple or progressive.

1. While the policeman ________________ out of the window, he ________________ that a blue SUV ________________ down the road. (LOOK, NOTICE, PARK)
2. I ________________ on my report when the phone ________________. My wife ________________ to know when I ________________ home. (WORK, RING, WANT, COME)
3. He ________________ down the street when he ________________ his old schoolteacher on the other side. (WALK, SEE)
4. During the time I ________________ in South Africa I never ________________ a serious crime. (SPEND, SEE)
5. While they ________________ lunch at the new restaurant, a journalist ________________ up to them and ________________ to ask a few questions. (HAVE, COME, WANT)
6. The farmer ________________ the whole neighbourhood with fruit and vegetables. (SUPPLY)
7. The hairdresser ________________ up her shop, ________________ into the car and ________________ home. (LOCK, GET, DRIVE)
8. My brother ________________ to contact me at the office, but he ________________ me because I ________________ lunch with a customer. (TRY, CANNOT REACH, HAVE)
9. Jack ________________ over the carpet because he ________________ attention to where he ________________. (TRIP, NOT PAY, GO)
10. Where ________________ when I ________________ across you yesterday? (YOU GO, COME)
11. I ________________ him off at the airport when the police ________________ and ________________ him. (SEE, COME, ARREST)
12. The old man ________________ on the pavement, so James ________________ to help him. (FALL, STOP)
13. How ________________ your leg? – Well, I ________________ on the ladder when, suddenly, I ________________ my balance and ________________. (YOU BREAK, STAND, LOSE, FALL)
14. She ________________ in France at the time she ________________ the bad news. (LIVE, RECEIVE)
15. I ________________ the new Prime Minister while I ________________ the press conference. (MEET, ATTEND)
16. While I ________________ on the motorway, more and more police cars ________________ in my direction. (DRIVE, COME)
KEY

1. While the policeman was looking out of the window, he noticed that a blue SUV was parking down the road. (LOOK, NOTICE, PARK)
2. I was working on my report when the phone rang. My wife wanted to know when I was coming home. (WORK, RING, WANT, COME)
3. He was walking down the street when he saw his old schoolteacher on the other side. (WALK, SEE)
4. During the time I was spending in South Africa I never saw a serious crime. (SPEND, SEE)
5. While they were having lunch at the new restaurant, a journalist came up to them and wanted to ask a few questions. (HAVE, COME, WANT)
6. The farmer supplied the whole neighbourhood with fruit and vegetables. (SUPPLY)
7. The hairdresser locked up her shop, got into the car and drove home. (LOCK, GET, DRIVE)
8. My brother tried to contact me at the office, but he couldn't reach me because I was having lunch with a customer. (TRY, CANNOT REACH, HAVE)
9. Jack tripped over the carpet because he wasn't paying/didn't pay attention to where he was going. (TRIP, NOT PAY, GO)
10. Where were you going when I came across you yesterday? (YOU GO, COME)
11. I was seeing him off at the airport when the police came and arrested him. (SEE, COME, ARREST)
12. The old man fell on the pavement, so James stopped to help him. (FALL, STOP)
13. How did you break your leg? – Well, I was standing on the ladder when, suddenly, I lost my balance and fell. (YOU BREAK, STAND, LOSE, FALL)
14. She was living in France at the time she received the bad news. (LIVE, RECEIVE)
15. I met the new Prime Minister while I was attending the press conference. (MEET, ATTEND)
16. While I was driving on the motorway, more and more police cars were coming in my direction. (DRIVE, COME)