

## Writing Practice - Correcting Mistakes

### Teacher's Worksheet

#### Watching the neighbor

It was a strange night, there seemed to be a chill in the air. I decided to make a delicious vegetable **soup**<sup>1</sup>, my mom's recipe, but when I tried to turn **on**<sup>2</sup> my oven, I noticed that the gas had been cut off, it was very strange, however, I didn't care.

I was in **the**<sup>3</sup> living room and choosing what film **\***<sup>4</sup> I would like to watch, when I felt a bit cold. I went up **to**<sup>5</sup> the attic to turn **on**<sup>6</sup> my heater, but it didn't work. What was **\***<sup>7</sup> happening?

When I went back down, I saw my phone's line had been cut off. I decided to take<sup>8</sup> my cellphone and rang up **\***<sup>9</sup> my neighbor Mr. Paul, known police officer **in**<sup>10</sup> that area. He picked up and looked **at**<sup>11</sup> me through the window and said slowly: "Don't move".

Suddenly, I heard a loud noise that sounded like a gun firing, and it was! Mr. Paul had shot Manny Buffalo, a wanted robber.

I was relieved that nightmare was over, on the other hand I wondered, what Manny Buffalo **wanted**<sup>12</sup> from me? Nobody will **ever**<sup>13</sup> know.

#### Mistakes

1. **was sitting** (v.) - Past continuous verb. When telling a story, the past continuous helps explain the context of a story.
2. **The middle of the night** (phr.) - A common expression when talking about a time, late at night.
3. **myself** (reflexive pron.) - When talking about an action you did, you must use a reflexive pronoun.
4. **a** (deter.) - A singular noun needs a determiner such as a/an/the.
5. **In** (prep.) - The next morning doesn't need the preposition "in".
6. **couldn't** (modal v.) - This modal verb should be in its past form.
7. **such** (pred.) - We use such when we have an adjective and a noun:
  - It was such a good party.
  - Acapulco is such a nice holiday destination.
8. **so** (pred.) - We use so when we have an adjective but no noun.
  - She's so nice, isn't she?
  - My homework is so difficult!
9. **passed away** (phr.) - We always use this expression in the past simple.

10. **had been** (v.) - When talking about an action which occurred before another action in the past, we must use the past perfect.

- Before he arrived, I had already finished my dinner.
- By the time the movie was over I had finished my drink.

11. **was** (v.) - When talking about something that has already happened, we should use the past simple.