Use present, present perfect, past or past perf. tenses, either in the continuous or simple form. (Hugh Gethin: Grammar in 1999 Context)

The last time the phone (23 ring) with me in the shower I (24 not answer) it. I (23 learn) later that someone (26 ring) me up to offer me a job which they (27 then offer) to someone else. I (28 just tell) Denis that he (29 be) to blame for the fact that I (30 miss) a golden opportunity.

'What (31 dolyou) with yourself lately? I (32 not|see) you for over a month.' 'I (33 be) in Stockholm since I last (34 see) you.'

'Really? How long (35 belyou) there and what (36 dolyou)?'

'Nearly three weeks. I (37 do) some research at the Royal Library. I think I (38 already|tell) you that I (39 work) on a book about Scandinavia.' 'Yes. How (40 go it)?'

'Not so bad. I (41 hope) to have it in the hands of the publisher by the end of the year.'