Fill in the blanks with the appropriate tense of the verbs given in the parentheses.

The Senate’s Last Chance on AIDS

Over the past year or so, President Bush and many senators ________ (to visit) Africa to witness firsthand the ravages of AIDS. They ________ (to hold) sick babies, ________ (to pat) the hands of dying women, ________ (to visit) community groups caring for orphans and clinics bereft of medicine. They ________ (to make) heartfelt statements that lives can and must be saved.

Then they ________ (to come) home and ________ (to stiff) the global AIDS budget. Mr. Bush ________ (to make) a worldwide splash by promising a $15 billion, five-year program. He ________ (to endorsed) an authorization of $3 billion for 2004, which ________ (to be) passed by both the House and Senate. But the White House and the Congressional leadership then ________ (to conspire) to cut the actual money appropriated back to $2.1 billion.