Avoiding Gear Changes

Most stories are written in the past tense, since the act of narration itself suggests that you are telling about something that happened in the past.

DIRECTIONS: The paragraph below has many mistakes. Rewrite the paragraph, correcting the errors.

When Michael opened his test, he can't believe it. "This isn't what I studied!" he murmured to himself. He looks to his left, and to his right. All the other students will have already started writing, but Michael couldn't even remember having open *To Kill A Mockingbird*. How is he supposed to write an essay interpreting it? Have he missed an assignment? Or misunderstand something? Then an idea strikes him. Perhaps he had been given the wrong test; maybe one copy of another class's test had somehow get mixed up with his class's test. His heart pounding, afraid looked like a fool by speaking up, and afraid was a fool by knowingly taking the wrong test, he raised his hand.