

A Read the conversation. Complete the sentences with the verbs in the continuous aspect.

A: Thanks for coming to interview for the position of Head Chef today. Maybe you can start by telling me a bit about yourself.

B: Well, when I first started in this industry, I ¹ _____ (work) in a family-run restaurant as a waiter. Then I became really intrigued by what was going on in the kitchen, so I started learning how to cook. Now I ² _____ (work) as a chef for the past ten years and for nine of those I was in that very same place I started out!

A: That's great! So why did you leave there? Nine years is a long time.

B: Yes, well, it ³ _____ (get) to the point where I just needed a new challenge. I ⁴ _____ (cook) the same food for a long time and working with the same people day in, day out, who, don't get me wrong, were lovely! But I needed a fresh start. So I launched a small business and I ⁵ _____ (sell) food from a van at different events. I ⁶ _____ (love) it until I realized I actually preferred something more permanent.

A: I understand. So why do you want to work for us?

B: Well, I ⁷ _____ (eat) in your restaurants for a long time, so I'm definitely a fan of your food!

A: That's a good start.

B: And I ⁸ _____ (look) to develop my skills with a well-established brand such as yours.

A: Excellent. We're always happy to nurture talent. Now what would you say some of your strengths and weaknesses are?

B Match the uses of the continuous aspect in A (1–8) with the descriptions (a–e). Some of the descriptions can be matched with more than one use. Compare your answers with a partner.

- a to show an action continuing for some time or to distinguish a shorter action from a longer one _____
- b to show something that starts at an earlier point and continues until a later one _____
- c to talk about trends, and temporary or changing things _____
- d to describe a repeated action, especially if the speaker finds it surprising or annoying _____
- e used with a state verb _____