

**Present Continuous, Simple Past,
Present Perfect Continuous, and Past Perfect Continuous**

Listen to the audio and complete the correct form of the verb:

My English is really getting better. I (try) _____ to learn the language since 2010, but only recently have I been able to make some real progress. By the time I started high school in 2013, I (study) _____ the language for almost three years; however, I was only able to introduce myself and utter a few memorized sentences. For a couple more years, I (struggle) _____ through grammar and vocabulary lessons, which made absolutely no difference. Nothing worked, so I decided to study abroad.

I found an exchange program in England that sounded like the perfect answer. I (stay) _____ with a host family for one month. It was a huge disappointment! I (sit) _____ there the whole time staring at the host mother and father hoping that there would be some breakthrough. Nothing.

When I returned, I mentioned to a friend that I (have) _____ problems with the language for years. He recommended that I spend a year in an English-speaking country. I decided to go abroad again. I (research) _____ exchange programs for a couple of weeks and finally decided on a school in the United States.

Well, it worked. I (live) _____ and (study) _____ in the U.S. for more than two years. I (stay) _____ here for at least another year before I return home. By then, I should be completely fluent.