

Complete the text with the following sentences:

A I was able to B Not being able to C I just wasn't able to D I will never be able to
E I would suddenly be able to F I've always wanted to be able to G we would never be able to

I've never been able to...

...scuba dive.

I really wanted to learn. Maybe it was because of that scene in one of the very first James Bond films, where a beautiful actress comes out of the sea looking fabulous, with oxygen bottles on her back- I could see myself looking just like her. So, two years ago I booked a holiday which included a week's intensive course.

On the first day of the course I was incredibly excited. First we had two hours of theory and then we went into the sea to put it into practice. But as soon as I went under the water I discovered that I suffered from claustrophobia. (1)_____ do it. After about half an hour I gave up. Every evening for the rest of my holiday I had to listen to my scuba-diving classmates talking about all the wonderful things they had seen that day on their diving excursions. (2)_____ join the conversation was very frustrating.

I still love swimming and snorkelling, but I think that I have to accept that (3)_____ scuba dive.

...learn to dance.

(4)_____ dance salsa, and when I was working in Ecuador there were free classes, so I joined. But the art of salsa is to keep your arms still and move your hips, and I just couldn't do it. When I hear music my arms start moving, but my hips don't.

After about ten hours of classes (5)_____ do the basic steps, but I was dancing like a robot! I didn't give up, but soon everyone in the class was dancing and I was just slowly moving from side to side and counting out loud 'one, two, three, four' It was a bit embarrassing. I was sure that one day (6)_____ to do it- but that never happened. I can still remember the first two steps and I still try to dance when I hear a salsa tune- as long as nobody is watching!

...speak Japanese.

I love manga - Japanese comics - and I tried to learn Japanese, but I found it incredibly difficult, and I gave up after two years.

I think Asian languages, which have symbols instead of words, are extremely hard to learn for people who are more used to Roman letters. Also my teacher, a Japanese woman, didn't speak English very well, which didn't help! She was a very charming woman, but she was a little disappointed with us, and you could see that she thought that (7)_____ learn. However, one day she invited us to dinner and gave us some delicious traditional Japanese food, and since then I often go to Japanese restaurants. So I learned to love the food, if not to speak the language!