



Learn English Through Stories

T Series

Test 16

**Adapted and modified by
Kulwant Singh Sandhu**

<https://learn-by-reading.co.uk>

Modal Auxiliaries: Progressive Form

1. Complete each sentence, using the verb in parentheses with the modal auxiliary that best expresses the degree of certainty of the statement (**must, should, may, could, or might**). Use the correct progressive form of the verb.

EXAMPLE: Serge seems very busy these days. He **may be finishing** (finish) his doctoral dissertation.

1. Don't be mad at Henry. He didn't mean to offend you. I think he.....(kid).
2. Sorry for the noise. Olivia is upstairs with her friends, and they(play) some sort of game that requires running around a lot.
3. I am wasting time right now. I am playing video games, but I (study). I have a final in Economics first thing in the morning.
4. I really need to speak to Peter right away, but I can't remember what hotel he told me he would be staying in. He (stay) at the Hilton, but I'm not sure. He (stay) at the Concorde.
5. Don't be mad at Henry. Although I am not sure, I doubt he meant to offend you. He(kid) when he said that, but who knows?
6. All the people coming into the restaurant are carrying wet umbrellas. It (rain) outside.
7. I am not sure whether Marie is in her room or not. She (jog) around the park like she usually does at this time of the day.
8. I smell smoke. Something..... (burn).
9. He is over an hour late, but I don't know for sure where he could be. He(ride) the bus over here, which will take him a while. Or he(walk), in which case I doubt he will be here in time for dinner.
10. I heard he hurt himself while rock climbing. He(climb) without supervision.

2. For each sentence, determine if a form of the verb **be** is required. If so, write the correct form in the blank. If not, mark an X in the blank.

EXAMPLE: Chris rides his bike everywhere. He **is used** to biking long distances.

1. A teacher..... used to correcting exercises quickly. Students often turn them in at the last minute.

2. People.....used to think the earth was the centre of the universe.

3. Peterused to do all the house chores, because he lived alone. Now he has a roommate, so he only has to clean the dishes and sweep the floor.

4. In the American West, horsesused to be the main means of transportation. Today, hardly anyone uses horses. Instead, they travel by plane, because theyused to faster forms of transportation.

5. I have lived in South Africa for a long time. Iused to high temperatures.

6. I used to live in the south of England, but now I live in Spain.

7. Theyused to sitting outside when they eat. During the summer, they always sit at that picnic table.

8. When I was a teenager, Iused to smoke cigarettes. I quit a long time ago, though.

9. It's too bad they closed the corner store. Alex and I used to stopping by there to buy bottled water on our way to the basketball court.

10. Iused to sitting in the back of the bus, but I don't mind sitting in the front.

11. Chris has never owned a car. He used to taking public transportation.

12. Maria and I are from different cultures. She used to having eggs for breakfast. Iused to drinking coffee and running out the door.

3. Complete each sentence, using the appropriate form of **would or used to** with the verb in parentheses.

EXAMPLE: I **used to be** (be) able to read two or three books a week.

1. I (be) scared of sleeping with my door closed. Whenever I got ready for bed, I (open) it.

2. Famine is still a problem in most of East Africa, but it (be) more widespread than it is now.

3. I got a huge red kite when I was 12. My friend Chris (ask) to borrow it so he could fly it too, but for months I(never + let) any of my friends use it.

4. I remember my third-grade maths teacher really well. Every morning, he(begin) class by telling us how important mathematics was in everyday life.

5. I (be) a political science major. After graduating, I was hired to work at the United Nations. Every Wednesday morning, our council (get together) and discuss articles from the local newspaper. After that, we..... (go) to the cafeteria and have breakfast together. Back then, I..... (drink) at least two cups of coffee a day, but now I only drink tea.

6. I (be) very selfish. Whenever someone asked me for a favour, I (make up) an excuse and I(not + help) them.

7. I(be) scared of heights. My heart(start) racing and I(have) trouble catching my breath. Now I am used to it.

8. When I was in middle school, I(take) my soccer ball with me every morning to play with the other kids.

9. When my grandmother was a girl, her mother (walk) her to school every day.

10. Last summer my friend Mike and I went to Big Bend National Park. We had the greatest of times. Every afternoon, we(swim) in the river, we (dry out) while sitting in the sun, and then we(get ready) for dinner. If we weren't too tired, we (hike) back to the camp instead of using our motorbikes.

11. I can remember Mrs. Limon well. She was my neighbour when I
(live) in San Francisco. She (always + smile) and(say) hello to me
whenever I'd run into her on my way home. When I talked to her for too long,
she(clear) her throat. That was her way of telling me that she needed
to get back to what she was doing.

Answers

Complete each sentence, using the verb in parentheses with the modal auxiliary that best expresses the degree of certainty of the statement (**must, should, may, could, or might**). Use the correct progressive form of the verb.

EXAMPLE: Serge seems very busy these days. He **may be finishing** (finish) his doctoral dissertation.

1. Don't be mad at Henry. He didn't mean to offend you. I think he **must have been kidding**.
2. Sorry for the noise. Olivia is upstairs with her friends, and they **must be playing** some sort of game that requires running around a lot.
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7. I am not sure whether Marie is in her room or not. She **may be jogging** around the park like she usually does at this time of the day.
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9. He is over an hour late, but I don't know for sure where he could be. He **could be riding** the bus over here, which will take him a while. Or he **may be walking**, in which case I doubt he will be here in time for dinner.
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7. They **are used** to sitting outside when they eat. During the summer, they always sit at that picnic table.

8. When I was a teenager, I **used** to smoke cigarettes. I quit a long time ago, though.

9. It's too bad they closed the corner store. Alex and I **were used** to stopping by there to buy bottled water on our way to the basketball court.

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