

Maria decided to learn English last year **because** she wanted to travel abroad **and** find a better job. **First**, she downloaded a language app on her phone **and** bought a grammar book. **Then**, she started to study every evening.

At the beginning, she found it difficult **because** she did not understand the pronunciation **and** forgot new words quickly. **As a result**, she felt frustrated. **However**, she continued to practice.

For example, she watched videos in English **and** listened to songs. **In addition**, she repeated sentences aloud **and** wrote new vocabulary in a notebook. She **also** read short stories **and** tried to guess the meaning of unknown words.

After a few months, she noticed progress. She **not only** understood simple conversations **but also** spoke with tourists in her city. **Therefore**, she felt more confident **and** her teacher congratulated her.

Now, Maria studies English three times a week **and** plans to take an exam next year. She dreams of working in another country. **Although** she knows the journey is long, she feels motivated to continue.