



USED TO, WOULD & BE/GET USED TO

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1. Learn the Grammar

We use used to + base verb to talk about past habits or situations that are no longer true.

Past habits:

- I used to walk to school every day.
- We used to visit our grandparents every Sunday.
- She used to play tennis, but she doesn't play anymore.

Past states or situations:

- I used to live in China.
- He used to be very shy.
- There used to be a small shop here.

We often use used to when we compare the past with the present.

Negative form: didn't use to + base verb

- I didn't use to like coffee.
- She didn't use to wear glasses.

Question form: Did + subject + use to + base verb?

- Did you use to play football?
- Did they use to live here?

Remember: after did or didn't, write use to, not used to.

2. Complete the Sentences

Complete each sentence with the correct form of used to and the verb in brackets.

1. I _____ (play) outside every afternoon when I was a child.
2. My family _____ (live) in a small village, but we moved to the city.
3. She _____ (not / like) vegetables, but now she eats them every day.
4. _____ you _____ (watch) cartoons when you were younger?
5. There _____ (be) a cinema on this street, but it closed years ago.
6. He _____ (not / have) a car, so he travelled by bus.
7. My grandparents _____ (tell) us stories before bedtime.
8. _____ your town _____ (have) more green spaces in the past?

3. Choose the Correct Answer

1. I (used to / use to) have long hair.
2. Did you (used to / use to) play an instrument?
3. She didn't (used to / use to) enjoy cooking.
4. There (used to / use to) be a park here.
5. We (used to / use to) go camping every summer.
6. Did he (used to / use to) work in a bank?

4. Rewrite the Sentences

Rewrite each sentence using used to.

1. When I was younger, I played basketball every weekend.

2. In the past, she had very long hair.

3. They lived near the beach before they moved away.

4. He didn't like spicy food in the past.

5. Was there a restaurant on this corner in the past?

6.

5. Speaking — Then and Now

Ask your partner these questions. Give details in your answers.

1. Where did you use to live?
2. What games did you use to play as a child?
3. What food didn't you use to like?
4. What did you use to do at weekends?
5. What was your school like?
6. What is different about your life now?

Try to ask at least two follow-up questions, such as “Why did you stop?” or “Do you miss it?”

REAL ENGLISH BOX

- “I used to be really into football.” = I was very interested in football in the past.
- “Things have changed a lot.” = Life is very different now.
- “Back in the day ...” = In the past, often when remembering earlier times.
- “I don't do that anymore.” = I did it before, but I stopped.

Teacher's Key

Activity 2

1. used to play
2. used to live
3. didn't use to like
4. Did / use to watch
5. used to be
6. didn't use to have
7. used to tell
8. Did / use to have

Activity 3

1. used to
2. use to
3. use to
4. used to
5. used to
6. use to

Activity 4 — Suggested answers

1. I used to play basketball every weekend.
2. She used to have very long hair.
3. They used to live near the beach.
4. He didn't use to like spicy food.
5. Did there use to be a restaurant on this corner?