



Used to and would are both used to express habits in the past.

Before he became a big star, Mark **used to** play music on the street for money.

Before he became a big star, Mark **would** play music on the street for money.

However, would cannot be used with stative verbs such as *be, have, like, live, love, mean, and own*.

Correct: When I was young, I **used to** have a clarinet.

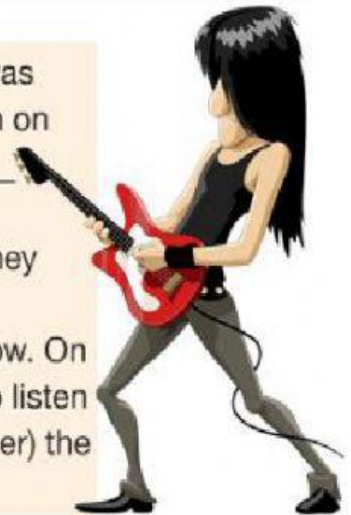
Incorrect: When I was young, I **would** have a clarinet.

1. Before Elvis made it big, he would sing with his family on the front porch of his house in Tupelo, Mississippi.
2. I _____ own a violin that my uncle gave me for my birthday. I don't know where it is now.
3. Since the young Beethoven loved nature, he _____ take long walks along the banks of the Rhine River.
4. That performer _____ be washed up, but he has since made a remarkable comeback.
5. Before he was discovered by a Hollywood talent scout, that singer _____ regularly announce local sports events on the radio.
6. Café La Fortuna in New York City, where John Lennon _____ like to have coffee and read the newspaper, closed down in 2008.
7. In the 1990s, Pavarotti _____ perform as part of The Three Tenors with José Carreras and Plácido Domingo.
8. In high school, Madonna _____ love to dance and _____ always get excellent grades.
9. Although my family wasn't wealthy, we _____ own a concert-quality grand piano.



Complete the paragraph using the correct form of the verb in parentheses. Use *would* or *will* for habits and general truths wherever possible.

Music has played an important role in my life since I was very young. When I was a boy, our family (1) would sit (sit) on the green lawn in the center of town on Saturday nights listening to the town band. Between songs, I (2) _____ (like) to talk to the musicians about their instruments, which fascinated me. I (3) _____ (ask) them if I could play their trumpets and clarinets, and they (4) _____ (say) no in as gentle a way as they could. Who could have imagined that I would become an instrument maker? I've got my own family now. On warm Saturdays, I (5) _____ (take) them down to the center of town to listen to the town band. And, every time we go, my own son (6) _____ (bother) the musicians with questions and requests. After all, like father, like son!



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