

**Instructions:** Complete the sentences by choosing the correct option to fill in the gaps. Use **used to**, **past continuous** or **past simple** tense, depending on what fits best in the context of each speaker's story.

## What kind of child were you...and have you changed?



**David, 47** I loved being an only child. I was never lonely; I enjoyed spending time on my own, doing what I wanted, when I wanted. I <sup>1</sup> **was liking / used to like** reading, going for walks and bike rides in the countryside, and birdwatching. I also collected insects and I <sup>2</sup> **used to keep / kept** them in the garden to learn how they grew and behaved. Now I am a professional biologist, so I still enjoy those things! I'm still very happy spending time on my own, but I enjoy the company of others much more now.



**Magda, 22** I was quite sociable as a child and I really enjoyed playing with my friends. But I used to be a bit shy about meeting new people and also quite afraid of some things. Once when I was little, I remember we went for a walk, and I <sup>3</sup> **was holding / held** an ice cream and a big black dog ran over and bit the whole top off. As a result, I didn't like dogs or going for walks for many years. 'Dog ate my ice cream' has become a bit of a family joke. After I <sup>4</sup> **started / was starting** university, I became much more confident. Now I still enjoy spending time with friends, but I like spending time on my own, too. I also love dogs. So maybe I've changed a lot!



**Alex, 59** I am one of five brothers and sisters – I'm the second youngest. I <sup>5</sup> **was having / used to have** tantrums as a two-year-old, but I was very independent. When I was three, my mum <sup>6</sup> **went / used to go** into hospital to have my younger brother, and I was the only one in the house who knew how to turn the washing machine on. Actually, I haven't changed much. I'm almost 60 now – I've been strongly independent all my life and I even have the occasional tantrum.



**Stephen, 23** I <sup>7</sup> **used to be / was always** very messy when I was younger. I used to throw my clothes around everywhere, and Mum never knew which was clean and which was dirty washing. However, now that I'm older, I'm very tidy – mess really stresses me out! Also, I <sup>8</sup> **always hated / was always hating** going to school, but now I'm doing a postgraduate course at university. But in some ways, I haven't changed at all. I was quite a thoughtful, sensitive person when I was young, and I'm the same now.