

used to and would

SHOW WHAT YOU KNOW

1 Read the sentences and write **A** for describing an action or **S** for describing a state.

0 When my dad was young, he went to the Polish seaside every summer.

☒ A

1 My granddad had a Fiat 126, or 'Maluch'.

☐

2 Grandma, Granddad, my dad and my uncle all squeezed into the tiny car.

☐

3 They drove all the way from Wrocław to Sopot.

☐

4 It took them all night and most of the next day.

☐

5 Despite the long drive, Dad loved going on holiday in his 'Maluch'.

☐

2 ★ Rewrite the sentences using *used to*.

0 In the 1990s, people chose very bright colours.

In the 1990s, people used to choose very bright colours.

1 Many women wore tight jeans and cowboy boots.

Many women _____ tight jeans and cowboy boots.

2 It was stylish for men to wear white socks.

It _____ stylish for men to wear white socks.

3 Tattoos and body piercings weren't as popular as they are now.

Tattoos and body piercings _____ as popular as they are now.

4 Supermodels such as Cindy Crawford and Claudia Schiffer became famous.

Supermodels such as Cindy Crawford and Claudia Schiffer _____ famous.

5 Was short hair fashionable?

_____ fashionable?

- 3 ★ ★ Read the text and replace the underlined verbs with phrases using *used to* or *would*. Use *would* where possible and *used to* if *would* is not possible.



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Reality check, by Simon Foster, 23

Five years ago, I thought⁰ used to think I was going to make lots of money when I left school. I told¹ _____ my parents I'd be the president of a company with a fancy car and a big house by the time I was twenty-one. I believed² _____ that companies were going to fight to offer me a job because I was going to be a great innovator like Bill Gates or Steve Jobs. I didn't feel³ _____ that further study was necessary and I wanted to get a job and start my 'amazing' career as soon as possible. I said⁴ _____ that I'd be able to 'do whatever' and 'go wherever' because I'd be so rich and successful. I didn't know⁵ _____ much about real life back then.

What would I say to my teenage self now? WAKE UP, MATE! The real world is tough and competitive, and success requires hard work. Take a reality check, work hard and if you are very lucky, success might follow.

4 ★ ★ ★ Tick the correct sentence in each pair.
Sometimes both sentences are correct.

When we went on family summer holidays:

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|-------------------------------------|
| 1 | a | We used to set off very early in the car. | ☒ |
| | b | We would set off very early in the car. | ☐ |
| 2 | a | One summer we drove all the way to Spain. | ☐ |
| | b | One summer we would drive all the way to Spain. | ☐ |
| 3 | a | I used to think it was amazing that Mum and Dad could find the way. | ☐ |
| | b | I would think it was amazing that Mum and Dad could find the way. | ☐ |
| 4 | a | We wouldn't have GPS in those days. | ☐ |
| | b | We didn't use to have GPS in those days. | ☐ |

SHOW WHAT YOU'VE LEARNT

5 Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first. Use the word in capitals.

- 0 When she was young, Helen didn't get on very well with her cousin Madeline. **USE**
When she was young, Helen didn't use to get on very well with her cousin Madeline.
- 1 I wasn't fair-haired as a baby. **DIDN'T**
I _____ fair-haired as a baby.
- 2 Though they shared a bedroom for many years, Tina and her brother Oliver never fell out. **WOULDN'T**
Though they shared a bedroom for many years, Tina and her brother Oliver _____.
- 3 Kim looked up to her team-mate Ellie until she discovered that Ellie was a cheat. **USED**
Kim _____ her team-mate Ellie, until she discovered that Ellie was a cheat.
- 4 We hated playing football on cold afternoons. **HATE**
We _____ playing football on cold afternoons.
- 5 At every match, the fans started singing at the beginning of the match. **WOULD**
At every match, the fans _____ singing at the beginning of the match.
- 6 You thought you'd always be skinny, but now you're sixteen, you're very well-built. **THINK**
You _____ you'd always be skinny, but now you're sixteen, you're very well-built.