

2-11 EXPRESSING PAST HABIT: *USED TO*

(a) I used to live with my parents. Now I live in my own apartment. (b) Ann used to be afraid of dogs, but now she likes dogs. (c) Al used to smoke, but he doesn't anymore.	Used to expresses a past situation or habit that no longer exists at present. FORM: used to + the simple form of a verb
(d) Did you used to live in Paris? (OR Did you use to live in Paris?)	QUESTION FORM: did + subject + used to (OR did + subject + use to)*
(e) I didn't used to drink coffee at breakfast, but now I always have coffee in the morning. (OR I didn't use to drink coffee.) (f) I never used to drink coffee at breakfast, but now I always have coffee in the morning.	NEGATIVE FORM: didn't used to (OR didn't use to)* <i>Didn't use(d) to</i> occurs infrequently. More commonly, people use <i>never</i> to express a negative idea with <i>used to</i>, as in (f).

*Both forms (spelled *used to* or *use to* in questions and negatives) are possible. There is no consensus among English language authorities on which is preferable.

Directions: Make sentences with a similar meaning by using **used to**. Some of the sentences are negatives, and some of them are questions.

When I was a child, I was shy. Now I'm not shy.

1. I **used to be** shy, but now I'm not.

2. When I was young, I thought that people over forty were old.

I _____ that people over forty were old.

3. Now you live in this city. Where did you live before you came here?

Where _____?

4. Did you at some time in the past work for the telephone company?

_____ for the telephone company?

5. When I was younger, I slept through the night. I never woke up in the middle of the night.

I _____ in the middle of the night, but now I do.

I _____ through the night, but now I don't.

6. When I was a child, I watched cartoons on TV. I don't watch cartoons anymore. Now I watch news programs. How about you?

I _____ cartoons on TV, but I don't anymore.

I _____ news programs, but now I do.

What _____ on TV when you were a little kid?

Directions: Complete the sentences with a form of **used to** and your own words.

1. I **used to ride** my bicycle to work, but now I take the bus.
2. What time **did you use to go** to bed when you were a child?
3. I **didn't use to stay up** past midnight, but now I often go to bed very late because I have to study.
4. Tom _____ tennis after work every day, but now he doesn't.
5. I _____ breakfast, but now I always have something to eat in the morning because I read that students who eat breakfast do better in school.
6. I _____ interested in _____, but now I am.
7. A: When you were a little kid, what _____ after school?
B: I _____. How about you?
A: I _____.