



***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!



harmon hall®