

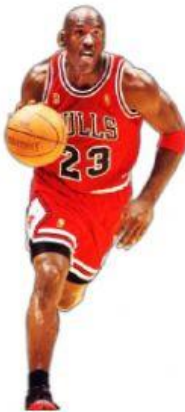


USED TO VS WOULD

When we talk about events, states, or habits that took place in the past and are not happening now, we use **used to** and **would**.

Guideline: Fill in the correct form of **used to** or **would**. If both answers are possible, then use **would**.

1. Michael Jordan _____ live in Brooklyn, N.Y. When he was young. He _____ often play basketball with his older brother.
2. He _____ (not) play only basketball- he played football and baseball too.
3. He really wanted to grow tall- so he _____ put salt in his shoes and pray. And it worked- he did grow tall!
4. When he was a child, he _____ often dream about winning an Olympic gold medal.
5. When Michael Jordan played in the NBA, there _____ (not) be 30 teams as there are today.
6. _____ you _____ cheer for Michael Jordan when he was a Chicago Bulls player?
7. Scottie Pippen is the youngest of 12 children and he _____ live in a small town in Arkansas.



8. When he was young, he _____ dream about making the winning shot in the 7th game of the NBA championship.
9. _____ Scottie play basketball very well? No, he didn't.
10. He was on his high school basketball team, but he _____ (not) play very much.
11. Pippen _____ be so skinny. He weighed 150 pounds or 68 kilos. No college offered him a scholarship.
12. So, his coach found him a job as basketball team manager at the University of Central Arkansas where he _____ be in charge of equipment and laundry for the team.



13. He _____ (not) play basketball very well. He _____ on the reserve teams.
14. Because many players quit the team, Pippen got a chance to play and killed it. He _____ score 4.3 points per game. Amazing!
15. Not many people _____ watch his games. He was almost unknown until that moment.
16. Michael Jordan _____ always stick his tongue out when he was making a shot. After a couple of years in the NBA he explained that it allowed him to get more engaged while shooting.
17. Jordan and Pippen _____ be called the greatest duo in basketball and any other duo taken their place yet.



Grammar bite!

Used to and **would** are both use to describe something that happened regularly in the past but doesn't happen any longer, However, there are two important differences between them. The first difference is that "**would**" cannot be used unless it has already been established that the time frame is in the past, while **used to** does not require this. This example, with **used to** at the beginning, sounds natural:

 I **used to** watch cartoons every Saturday morning. Now, I rarely ever watch TV.

While using **would** in the same example becomes awkward and ungrammatical:

 I **would** watch cartoons every Saturday morning when *I was very little*. Now I rarely watch TV. (*It's necessary to emphasize in the timeline...*)

The second difference is that "**would**" is never used with stative verbs such as *love, like, be, understand, feel, know, believe, think, weigh, have, include, belong, etc...*

 When I was a student, I **used to** love sleeping late on the weekends. (Natural and grammatical)

 When I was a student, I **would** love sleeping late on weekends. (Awkward and ungrammatical)