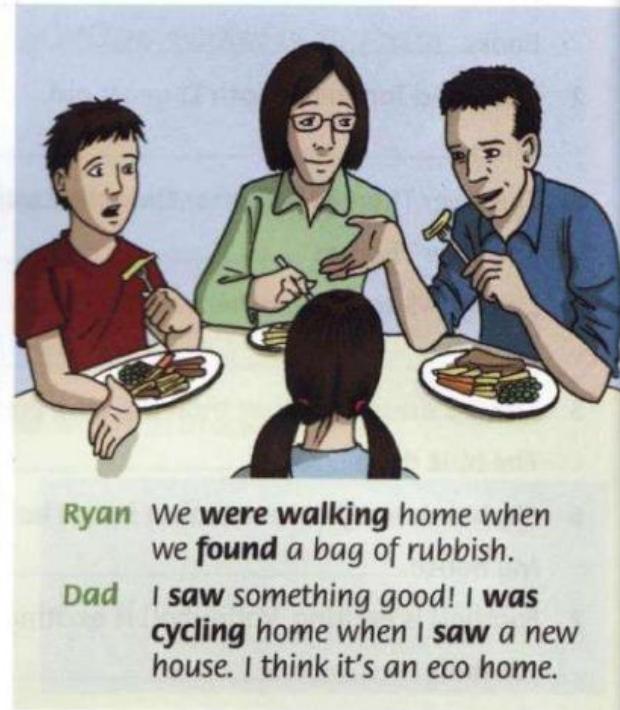
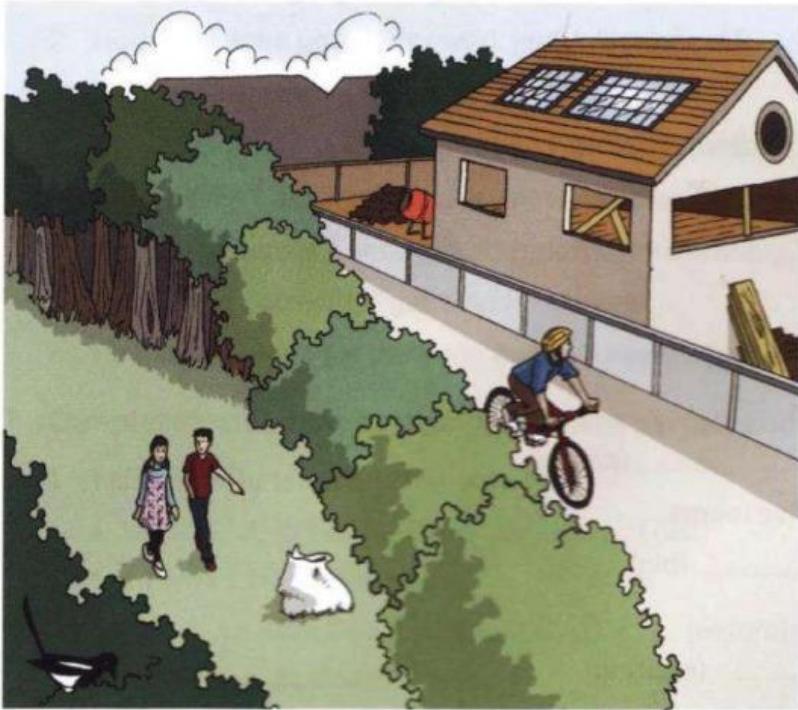


# 4 The world around us

The past continuous and the past simple  
Used to



## The past continuous and the past simple

 We often use the past continuous with the past simple. The past continuous talks about a longer action which started first.

*We were walking home when we saw a bag of rubbish.*

The past simple talks about a short action which happened during the longer action.

*We were walking home when we saw a bag of rubbish.*

We can make two actions into one sentence by connecting them with **when**.

*I was cycling home when I saw a new house.*

We can make either the past simple or the past continuous part of the sentence into a question. We use the matching short answer.

*Were you walking home when you saw a bag of rubbish? Yes, we were.*

*When you were walking home, did you see a bag of rubbish? Yes, we did.*

### 1 Complete the sentences. Use the past continuous of the verbs in brackets.

- 1 Mr Smith was driving (drive) home when the storm started.
- 2 I was watching (watch) a DVD on my computer when it stopped working.
- 3 We were travelling (travel) on the bus when we saw the new shops.
- 4 What were you doing (you do) when the phone rang?
- 5 She was shopping (shop) when she lost her purse.
- 6 Were you reading (you read) a book when your headache started?
- 7 I was walking (walk) outside when it started to rain.
- 8 Were you playing (you play) football when you hurt your leg?

2 Read the sentences. Tick the action that started first.

1 I was watching television when the lights went off.  
I was watching television.  The lights went off.

2 It was raining when I went out.

3 We were walking through the town when I saw the new shop.  
I saw the new shop.  We were walking through town.

4 Mum was shopping when she met an old friend.  
Mum was shopping.  She met her old friend.

3 Complete the sentences. Use the past continuous or the past simple of the verbs in brackets.

1 I was painting (paint) a picture when my mobile rang (ring).

2 George use (use) a hammer when he hit (hit) his hand.

3 Penny help (help) us when Mum come (come) in.

4 Mr and Mrs Feathers get (get) ready to go out when their son call (call).

5 We walk (walk) to school when we see (see) her.

6 I watch (watch) TV when Mum and Dad come (come) home.

7 They eat (eat) breakfast when I arrive (arrive).

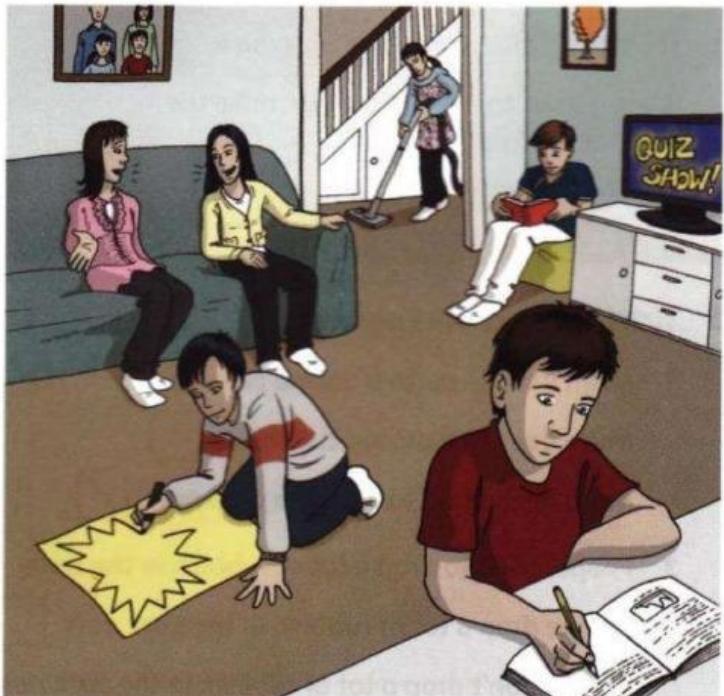
8 Dad sleep (sleep) when the play finish (finish).

4 Look at the picture. Complete the sentences with the words from the box.

~~do his homework~~ make a poster clean  
talk loudly read a book

What were the children doing when the programme started?

- 1 Ryan was doing his homework.
- 2 Julia
- 3 Tommy
- 4 Maddy and Beth
- 5 Martin





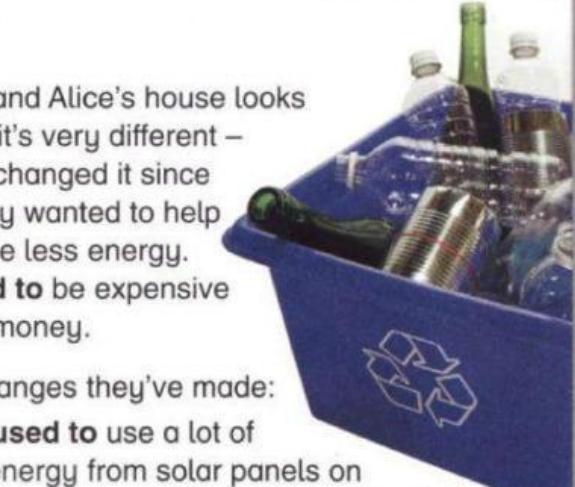
## An eco home

From the outside, Simon and Alice's house looks normal. But on the inside it's very different – their Mum and Dad have changed it since they moved in. Why? They wanted to help the environment and waste less energy. Also the energy bills **used to** be expensive and they wanted to save money.

These are some of the changes they've made:

Simon and Alice's family **used to** use a lot of electricity. Now they get energy from solar panels on the roof. They **used to** throw a lot of rubbish away. Now they recycle lots of rubbish.

The old owner of the house **didn't use to** grow vegetables. Now there are fruit trees and vegetables growing in the garden.



## Used to

 We use **used to** to describe past situations or habits. These actions or habits are finished. We do not do them any more.

*The energy bills **used to be** expensive.*

We use **used to + base form** to make the affirmative form.

*We **used to** spend a lot of money.*

We use **didn't + use to + base form** to make the negative form.

*The old owner **didn't use to look after** the garden.*

We make questions with **did + subject + use to + base form**. We make short answers with **did** or **didn't**.

*Did they **use to use** a lot of energy?*

*Yes, they did. / No, they **didn't**.*

### 5 Tick (✓) the correct answer.

1 Mum used to go to a drama club.

Mum goes to a drama club now.

Mum doesn't go to a drama club now.

3 People used to drop a lot of rubbish in the park.

People drop a lot of rubbish in the park now.

People don't drop a lot of rubbish in the park now.

2 Dad didn't use to be a policeman.

In the past, Dad was a policeman.

In the past, Dad wasn't a policeman.

4 I used to drink a lot of fruit juice.

In the past, I drank a lot of fruit juice.

I drink a lot of fruit juice now.

### 6 Match 1–6 with a–f.

1	a	I ride a bike now.	a	I used to walk everywhere.
2		Grandma's hair is grey.	b	He used to be a pilot.
3		We go to France for our holidays.	c	It used to be black.
4		My uncle had an exciting job.	d	He used to be very healthy.
5		When Grandpa was young he did a lot of sport.	e	It used to be untidy.
6		My brother keeps his bedroom tidy now.	f	We used to go to Spain.

### 7 Complete the sentences. Use words from the box and **used to**.

drive the car come from fossil fuels watch TV drink coffee  
drop rubbish do no exercise eat meat be more animals

- 1 Dad takes the bus to work now. Dad used to drive the car
- 2 Mum drinks tea now. Mum
- 3 We have salad for dinner now. We
- 4 The park is very clean now. People
- 5 Our town has a wind farm now. All the energy
- 6 The park doesn't have many wild animals now. There
- 7 We play a lot of sport now. We
- 8 I read a lot now. I

### 8 Look at the underlined sentences in exercise 7. Write negative sentences.

- 1 Dad didn't use to take the bus to work.
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8

9 Write questions and short answers. Use **used to**.

1 Mr Thompson / drive a car ✓

Did Mr Thompson use to drive a car? Yes, he did.

2 the children / drink orange juice X

3 we / eat cheese ✓

4 the swimming pool / be clean ✓

5 Cathy / have long hair X

6 the zoo / have lots of animals X

7 Max and Jack / play lots of tennis ✓

8 you / watch TV every day X

10 Write the words in the correct order to make sentences and questions. Use **use to** or **used to**.

1 they / eat lots of fruit?

Did they use to eat lots of fruit?

2 he / play basketball / every day.

3 you / not / read books.

4 I / live in the city.

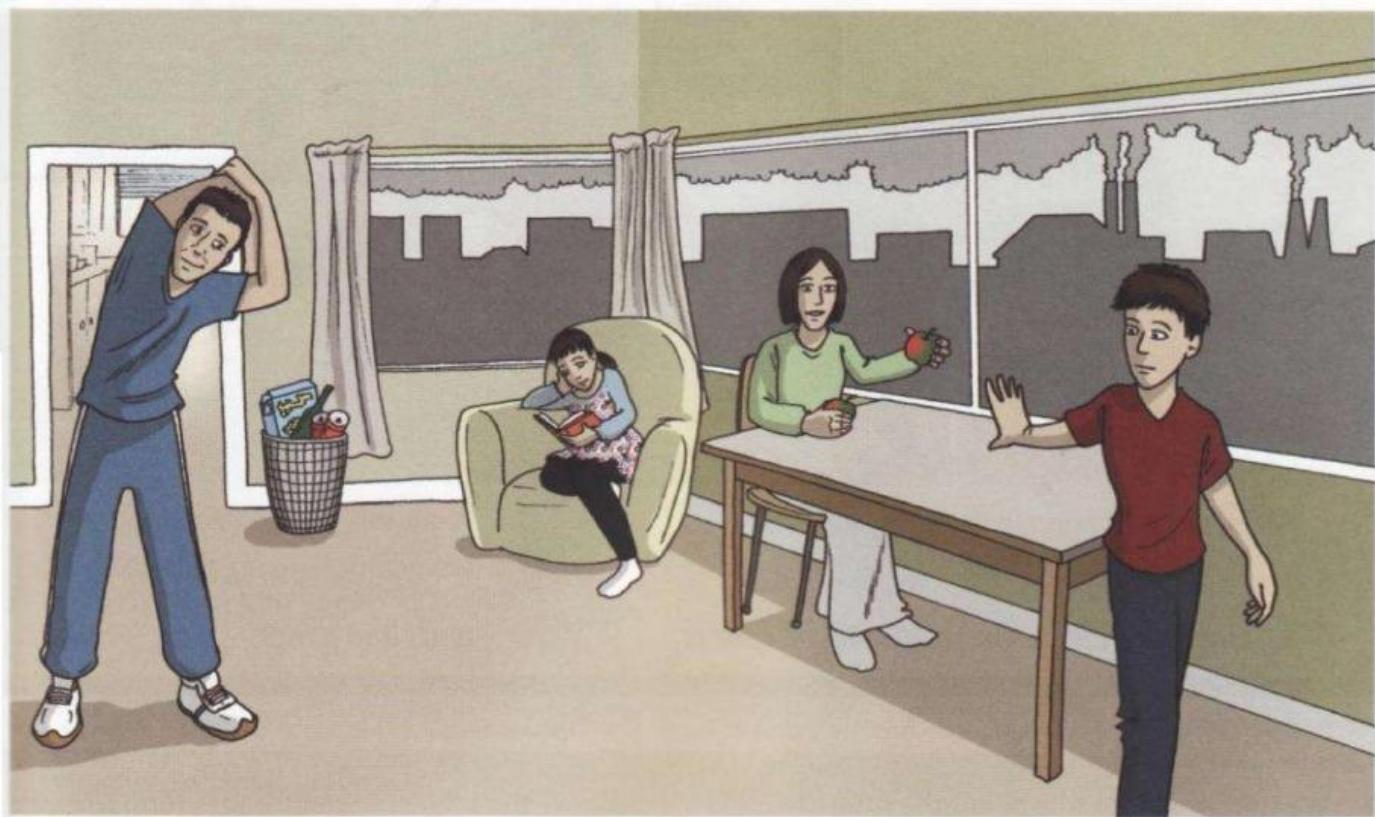
5 she / recycle rubbish?

6 we / take the bus / to the supermarket?

7 they / walk / to school.

8 you / not / study hard.

Look at the picture of the Casey family two years ago. Write sentences with **used to** or **didn't use to**.



- 1 They / have a TV. They didn't use to have a TV.
- 2 Mum / wear glasses.
- 3 The children / have any homework.
- 4 The Casey family / have a garden.
- 5 Dad / do lots of sport.
- 6 The town / be polluted.
- 7 Julia / read books.
- 8 They / recycle rubbish.
- 9 Ryan / eat fruit.

Answer the questions about yourself. Use short answers.

When you were five years old ...

- 1 ... did you use to like school? \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 ... did you use to tidy your own room? \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 ... did you use to watch DVDs? \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 ... did you use to play with dolls? \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 ... did you use to eat fruit? \_\_\_\_\_
- 6 ... did you use to like drawing pictures? \_\_\_\_\_