Used to/Be used to/ Get used to/Would

- **We use used to + infinitive to refer to past habits or states. In such cases, *used to* can be replaced by the past simple with no difference in meaning.**
  *e.g. They **used to travel/travelled** a lot when they were younger. (They don't any more).*

- **We use the past simple, and not *used to*, in the following cases:**

a) **to refer to an action which happened at a definite time in the past.**
*e.g. I **drove** to work yesterday. (NOT: ~~I used to drive to work yesterday.~~)*

b) **to say how many times an action happened at a definite time in the past.**
*e.g. I **went** to the cinema four times last month. (NOT: ~~I used to go to the cinema four times last month.~~)*

- **We use would/used to for repeated actions or routines in the past.**
  *e.g. We **would/used to** eat out on Sundays.*

  We do not use *would* with state verbs.
  *e.g. a) They **used to live** in London. (NOT: ~~They would live in London. - state~~)*
  *b) I **used to have** a pet dog. (NOT: ~~I would have a pet dog.~~)*

- **Be used to + noun/pronoun/-ing form = be accustomed to, be in the habit of**
  *e.g. a) They **are used to the cold**. (present)*
  *b) I don't mind walking. I'm **used to it**. (present)*
  *c) She **wasn't used to living** in the country. (past)*

- **Get used to + noun/pronoun/-ing form = become accustomed to**
  *e.g. a) I **am getting used to the weather**. (present)*
  *b) He didn't like using the computer at first, but **he got used to it**. (past)*
  *c) She **will** soon **get used to wearing** contact lenses. (future)*

14 Choose the correct answer.

1 'Sharon looks different now, doesn't she?'
'Yes. She ..B... to have long dark hair, didn't she?'
A is used **B** used **C** would

2 'I have never driven an automatic car before.'
'You will soon ..... to it.'
A get used **B** be used **C** used

3 'How is Sarah?'
'She's fine. She ..... to life in the countryside.'
A got used **B** used **C** is getting used

4 'Have you always worked as a nurse?'
'No. I ..... a childminder.'
A was used to being **B** used to be
C am used to being

5 'Do you remember when we were little?'
'Yes. Dad ..... always read us a bedtime story.'
A was used to **B** would **C** got used to

6 'Aren't you tired?'
'No. I ..... to walking long distances.'
A am used **B** got used **C** used

7 'Jane had trouble with her job at first.'
'Yes. She ..... to working on her own.'
A used **B** got used **C** wasn't used

8 'Did you find your degree course difficult?'
'Yes, but I soon ..... to it.'
A used **B** got used **C** was used

9 'Do you remember Uncle Danny?'
'Yes. He ..... always bring us presents.'
A would **B** was used **C** used

10 'Have you ever lived in a flat before?'
'No, but I will ..... to it.'
A be used **B** get used **C** used

11 'Why are you so tired?'
'Because I ..... to getting up early in the morning.'
A am used **B** used **C** am not used

12 'Do you know that man?'
'Yes. He ..... to work for me.'
A was used **B** used **C** is used

15

***Mary had to move to Italy for her job. At first, she found living in a foreign country quite difficult, but she is slowly getting used to it.* Use the prompts below to talk about how she is getting along, as in the example.**

S1: She wasn't used to living by the sea, but she is used to it now.
S2: She still hasn't got used to living on her own.

• live by the sea	✓	• use a new currency	✓
• live on her own	✗	• new customs	✓
• be away from her family and friends	✗	• drive on the other side of the road	✗
• speak Italian	✓	• hot weather	✓

LIVEWORKSHEETS