

# USED TO & DIDN'T USE TO

Achievers B1, page 14

We use **USED TO/DIDN'T USE TO** to talk about past habits and old routines.

(In Spanish we say "solía hacer tal cosa"). We use it when:

- ✓ the state or action lasted for some time, or happened repeatedly.
- ✓ the state or action doesn't happen now.
- ✓ the state or action happened a long time ago.

For example:

- \* *I **used to walk** to school, but now I cycle.*
- \* *He **used to go** to that restaurant a lot.*
- \* ***Did you use to swim** every day?*
- \* *I **didn't use to like** cheese, but now I love it.*

For more information, check the **grammar reference** on page 113

1. Read the article and write the correct names to complete the sentences.

Then complete the article with **used to** or **didn't use to** and the verbs in brackets.

\_\_\_\_\_ wrote Harry Potter.  
\_\_\_\_\_ started Starbucks.  
\_\_\_\_\_ founded the famous Cirque du Soleil.

## INSPIRATIONAL PEOPLE

These three inspirational people had a dream - to change their lives. But what **did** their lives **use to be** like? Read on and find out!

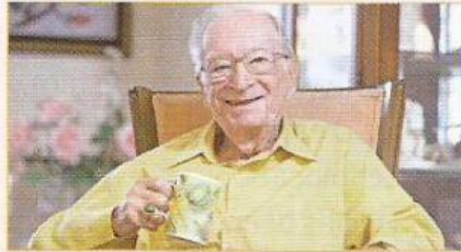
Howard Schultz's family <sup>1</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (have) much money. But Howard <sup>2</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (dream) of a different kind of life. Fortunately, he was good at sports and he won a scholarship to go to university. Then he started work at a coffee company.

JK Rowling <sup>3</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (be) one of the richest women in the UK or an important supporter of charities. In fact, she <sup>4</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (live) in a small apartment in Edinburgh, Scotland. And there she created the character of a young wizard.

Guy Laliberté <sup>5</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (manage) a famous company. In fact, he <sup>6</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (play) the accordion on the streets. And he <sup>7</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (perform) tricks such as eating fire and walking on stilts.



2. Read the text. Put the words in order to make questions.



Hi guys,

This is my interview with my granddad about his early life. He lived in Italy until he was 16. Then his family moved to London in 1964. His name's Giacomo, but we call him Granddad Jack!

Tilly

**DRAG & DROP  
THE WORDS  
IN ORDER**

1. did Italy where use to you live in ?

2. use to your parents what do did ?

3. live a house you did in use to ?

4. you did a musical instrument play use to ?

5. did music you what listen to sort of use to ?

6. did free time use to you what in your do ?



3. Match the questions in exercise 2 with these answers. Then complete them with **used to** or **didn't use to** and the verbs below.

**hang out**

**listen to**

**live (x2)**

**play (x2)**

**send**

**work**

- A. No, we \_\_\_\_\_. We \_\_\_\_\_ in an apartment in the city centre.
- B. Well, I liked classical music when I was a boy, so I \_\_\_\_\_ that. But my tastes changed later on!
- C. Well, I \_\_\_\_\_ video games all the time.  
And I \_\_\_\_\_ text messages to my friends! I \_\_\_\_\_ with my friends a lot and have fun. We were boys!
- D. My dad \_\_\_\_\_ in a bank. My mum did all the work at home!
- E. We \_\_\_\_\_ in Genova, a city in the north of Italy.
- F. I \_\_\_\_\_ the piano. When I got to London, I bought an electric guitar!