

Grammar in context

Read these sentences from the audio in the listening lesson on page 18 and then decide if the sentences are T (True) or F (False).

I used to want to be an architect.

1 This refers to a feeling in the past. **T / F**
 2 She still wants to be an architect. **T / F**
I would often watch programmes about unusual buildings on television.
 3 This refers to a habit in the past. **T / F**
 4 She still often watches programmes like that. **T / F**



REMEMBER

- We can use *used to* and *would* to talk about past habits: *When I was young, I used to / would tidy my room up every day.*
- We can use *used to* (but not *would*) to talk about past states: *I used to like living here but now I don't.*
- For negative statements with *used to*, we can use *never used to* or *didn't use to*: *There never used to / didn't use to be so many houses around here.*
- For questions with *used to*, we use *did ... use to ...?*: *Did they use to live next door to you?*

► See Grammar reference, Unit 2, page 149

1 Choose the correct word or phrase to complete each sentence. In some sentences, both answers are correct.

- 1 I remember that my father **would** / **used to** read to me every night.
- 2 Gemma **would often** / **often used to** cycle to school from her flat before she moved.
- 3 Where **would you** / **did you** use to live before you moved here?
- 4 I **would** / **used to** love playing in the park near our house.
- 5 There **wouldn't** / **didn't use to** be so many flats in this area when I was very young.
- 6 How **would you** / **did you** use to get to school when you were little?

2 Complete these sentences for yourself. Then compare with a partner and expand your answers. Use your imagination if necessary.

When I was younger ...

- 1 my family and I used to _____.
- 2 my grandparents would _____.
- 3 I never used to _____ but I do now!
- 4 I used to _____ but now I don't!

3 Write the correct form of *would* or *used to* in each gap to complete the text. If there is more than one correct answer, write both answers.

Alice's Wonderland: My blog

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Posted at 8:34pm by Alice

I was chatting to Mum earlier about when she was a teenager. She (1) _____ share a bedroom with her sister and it sounds very different from my own room. They (2) _____ have so much technology. They (3) _____ listen to music in their room, but they (4) _____ have a computer or TV. And they definitely (5) _____ have a computer in their room! (6) _____ get bored? Mum says 'no'. She (7) _____ invite her friends round and they (8) _____ chat and have fun. That's just the same today!



1980s



Today

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What did houses and flats use to be like in your country? How were they different from houses and flats today?