

LANGUAGE IN ACTION

used to



1 ★ Match sentences 1–6 with a–f.

- 1 I used to live in the countryside.
- 2 I didn't use to like coffee.
- 3 I used to be really shy.
- 4 I used to like going to the gym.
- 5 I used to eat a lot of fast food.
- 6 I didn't use to have many friends.

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- a Now I don't have time.
- b Now I think it's unhealthy.
- c I live in a city now.
- d Now I have lots.
- e I'm much more confident these days.
- f Now I have a cup every morning.



2 ★ Complete the text with *used to* or *didn't use to*.

When I was very young, I ¹ used to want to be a swimming teacher, because I loved swimming and I ² used to like our sports teacher. Sometimes, I ³ used to want to be an astronaut as well, because I really liked space. When I got older, I started to get interested in computers. We ⁴ didn't use to have a good computer at home, only a very old one, but then my dad decided to buy a really good one. My parents ⁵ used to let me spend much time on the computer – just a few hours a week. When I was 13, I started learning how to write my own games. I ⁶ didn't use to know how to do that before, but I had a great teacher at school who showed me how. In the future, I'd like to be a games developer!



4 ★★ Put the words in the correct order to make questions with *used to*.

- 1 you / use / to / Did / mobile phones / have / ?
Did you use to have mobile phones?
- 2 did / How / communicate / with / people / use / to / you / ?
How did you use to communicate with people?
- 3 free / in / your / What / you / did / use / do / to / time / ?
What did you use to do in your free time?
- 4 old / use / people / What / you / think / did / of / to / ?
What did you use to think of old people?

5 ★★ Complete the answers to the questions from Exercise 4. Use the correct form of *used to* and the verbs in the box.

be do have (x2) read send think (x2)

- 1 Well, no. I got my first mobile phone 15 years ago. Before that, we didn't use to have the internet or even computers. We didn't use to have a phone at home, of course.
- 2 We used to send letters, phone each other or just meet up a lot. Life was calmer then.
- 3 I watched TV. I used to read a lot of books, too. A lot of people now go shopping. We didn't use to have that because we didn't have the money.
- 4 Good question! I didn't use to think about them at all! I didn't use to be I couldn't get old. I still don't think I'm old!

