

Reading: Life Before Smartphones

Many teenagers today cannot imagine life without smartphones or the Internet. However, life was very different twenty years ago.

When I was a child, my family **used to** live in a small town where everyone knew each other. We **used to** spend most of our afternoons playing outside because we didn't have tablets or video games. My friends and I **would** ride our bikes around the neighborhood, and we **would** invent games that kept us busy for hours.

Every Saturday morning, my father **would** take us to the local market. He **would** always buy fresh fruit, and afterward we **would** stop at a small bakery to buy warm bread. It became one of our favorite family traditions.

In the evenings, my grandmother **would** tell us funny stories about her childhood while we sat together in the living room. She **used to** know hundreds of stories, and we never got tired of listening to them.

Our school was also very different. We **used to** write all our homework by hand, and teachers **used to** use chalkboards instead of interactive screens. If we needed information for a project, we **would** go to the library because the Internet wasn't available at home.

Today, life is faster and technology has changed the way we communicate and learn. Although I enjoy modern technology, I sometimes miss those simple days when families **would** spend more time together and children **used to** create their own fun instead of looking at a screen.

1. Where did the writer use to live?

- a) In a big city
- b) In a small town
- c) Near the beach
- d) In another country

2. What would the writer and his friends do after school?

- a) Play video games
- b) Watch television
- c) Ride their bikes and invent games
- d) Study in the library

3. What family tradition happened every Saturday?

- a) They visited a museum.
- b) They traveled to another city.
- c) They went to the market and bought bread.
- d) They watched movies together.

4. Why would the students go to the library?

- a) To meet their friends.
- b) To use the computers.
- c) To find information for school projects.
- d) To play games.

True or False

Write T or F.

1. The writer used to spend afternoons playing outside. _____
2. The writer's grandmother would tell scary stories every night. _____
3. Teachers used to use chalkboards in school. _____

Match the People with Their Actions

Match the people (A–D) with what they used to do (1–4).

People

- A. The writer
- B. The writer's father
- C. The writer's grandmother
- D. The teachers

Actions

1. Would tell funny stories.
2. Used to play outside with friends.
3. Would buy fresh fruit at the market.
4. Used to use chalkboards in class.