

PAST HABITS: USED TO, WOULD & SIMPLE

B2 | Teens / Adults | Grammar Question Practice | 20-30 minutes

Recall repeated actions, continuing states and single events with clear past context.

1. GET STARTED

Take turns asking and answering. Give details and ask a follow-up. You can invent personal details.

A: Did you spend much time at your grandparents' house?

B: Every summer. They **used to live** by the sea. We'd **walk** down to the beach each morning.

A: Sounds lovely. When **did they move** away?

2. ROUTINES YOU REMEMBER

1. Where **did you use to live** as a child? Describe the place and your routine.
2. On a typical childhood weekend, what **would you do** first thing in the morning?
3. What game **would you play** repeatedly with friends? Explain the appeal.
4. What **did you use to believe** that you no longer believe?
5. What one event **changed** a routine you enjoyed? Explain when it happened.
6. Who **used to be** important in your daily life? What **would you do** together?

Keep talking: Was that a regular action or one event? / What was the place like? / What changed?

3. SEPARATE ROUTINE FROM EVENT

Establish the past period. Use **would** for repeated actions, not a continuing state.

7. Describe a place you **used to know** well and what you **would do** there.
8. Describe a repeated family tradition and one year when something unusual **happened**.
9. Talk about an object you **used to own** and the day you **received** it.
10. Describe how you **used to feel** about a subject and what **changed** your view.

4. A MEMORY WITH A TURNING POINT

Tell your partner about a past place or period that mattered to you. Establish when it was.

Describe a state, two repeated actions and one event that changed the routine.

Example: We **used to own** a tent. Each summer, we'd **camp** by the river.

Your partner retells the memory, keeping the repeated actions and single event distinct.

Answer help: We used to ... / Every summer, we'd ... / Then, one day, ...

Remember: **Would** recalls repeated actions in a past context; use past simple for a single event.