

## Used to and Would

### Intro:

- Do you ever get confused with the grammar for “would” ? There’s a lot of ways we use “would” in English.
- Did you know that you can use “would” and “used to” the same way?
- We are going to look at:
  - The context and meaning of these words
  - Forms/structures of “used to” and “would”
  - The rules
  - How to use these in conversation

### Context and Meaning

- We can use “used to” and “would” when we are talking about the past----- but specifically-----habitual actions and routines in the past.
- But, that are **no longer happening now, presently**. They’re in the past.
- So, things ***we did*** routinely, habitually or multiple times; or ***events that occurred*** routinely/multiple times; ***situations*** that *existed*-----but no longer happen or exist.

### Forms and Structures:

- **“Used to”:**
- “Used to” is in the past tense.
- We say “used to” with a simple form or present tense verb
- Is used with any regular verb or stative verb (state of “be”)—how you feel, how you are or how something “is”.
- “I **used to exercise** every morning.”
- “I **didn’t use to exercise** every morning. But now I do.”
  - \*Notice that the negative ***didn’t***, is in the past tense, so “*use to*” is in the simple form, without a “d” (used).

- **(Forms and Structures):**
- Adverbs: *always/never* used to (put before “used to”)
  - “My friends and I *always* **used to play** video games everyday after school.”
  - “I **used to eat** junk food.” → “I *never* **used to eat** junk food.”

**“Would”:**

- “would” is also the past tense form
- We also say “would” with a simple form or present tense verb:
- “I **would finish** my assignments early.”
- Using adverbs: would *always/never/sometimes..* (after “would”)
  - I **would always go** to bed early when I was in high school.

**The Rules:**

- “I **used to work** at night.”
- “We **used to love** going to the beach every weekend.” (“love” is a stative verb)
  - However, we **cannot** use “would” with stative verbs (verbs of “be”):
    - be, have, live, like
  - “We **used to love** going to the beach every weekend. **Not:** “I **would love** going to the beach every weekend.” (Explain)
  - “I **used to live** in a little mountain town. **Not** “I **would live** in a little mountain town. (Explain)
  - “I **used to have** a red sports car.” Not “I **would have** a red sports car.”

(The Rules, continued)

1. “Whenever we **would go** shopping, you **would tell** me not to spend all my money.”
2. “I **would see** some expensive jacket but you **wouldn’t let** me buy it.”
  - For this sentence, it’s more common to use “would”.
  - Here’s why:
  - When we talk about something in the past that ***happened many times or several times, but not as a routine or habit, it’s common to use “would”.***

In sentence #1, maybe we didn't go shopping regularly or routinely, but sometimes we went shopping together. In the second sentence, I'm giving an example (I didn't see an expensive jacket EVERY time, But I'm making the point that when I wanted to buy something that was expensive, you stopped me. And because we went shopping many times in the past, I use the past habitual "would".)

- More examples of "would"
- "Remember how we'd **sit** around at the café and talk?" "Remember when our English teacher **would let** us bring donuts to class sometimes?"
- The neighbor's dog **would get out** of the yard and chase everyone down the street.
- These activities didn't necessarily happen routinely but they did happen many times, on different occasions.

**This isn't really a rule. It's just a common way we use English.**

**How to use these in conversation:**

- When I was in school, I **used to/would stay up** late on the weekends.
- I **used to live** in \_\_\_\_\_.
- Example: I **used to take** music lessons.
- Think of a hobby you used to have or do: (play the piano, play soccer, sky-dive, travel, etc.

I used to \_\_\_\_\_.

Think of some changes in your life. How has your life changed in the past 3 years, 5 years, or maybe just in the last year?

I used to \_\_\_\_\_ but now I \_\_\_\_\_.

I never used to \_\_\_\_\_, but now I \_\_\_\_\_.

I would \_\_\_\_\_, but now I \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_.