

Used to

Aims: To introduce “used to” to express discontinued past habits/states in controlled and freer speaking and writing activities.

This lesson could easily be adapted for an online class.

Length of activity: 60 mins

Level: B1 Pre-intermediate

Language: *I used to, I didn't use to, Did I use to?*

Materials:

Oxford Grammar Practice Ex 50.2 p 119 John Eastwood (OUP)
Reward Intermediate Resources Pack Unit 7 Sue Kay (Heinemann 1995),
<https://britishballs.com/aberdeen-man-thought-bin-was-safe/>
<https://pixabay.com/photos/man-portrait-adult-people-person-3123561/>

Preparation: Photocopy copies of Tasks 1 and 2. 1 copy of each per student. Stick photos of Bill on card to make durable.

Procedure:

Warmer: T introduces the topic of travel telling class about his last holiday.
Ss in pairs tell each other about their last holiday.

1. Show picture of Bill in the past. Elicit and establish information about his unhealthy lifestyle then.
2. Show picture of Bill now looking well and prosperous. Compare and contrast. Ask concept questions:
 - Did he sleep on a park bench? (Yes)
 - Did he sleep on a park bench once or more than once? (More than once)
 - Does he sleep on a park bench now? (No)
 - Did he sleep on a park bench recently or a long time ago? (A long time ago)
3. Draw timeline on board to show '*He used to sleep on a park bench*'. Drill the sentence, focus on pron of used to (/ju:s tə/). Drill chorally and individually, substitute *park bench* with *bed, chair, floor*, etc.
4. Elicit interrogative and negative forms. Board and drill as above.

5. Give out Task 1 for controlled practice. Complete individually, check in pairs – class feedback to establish correct answers.
6. Give out Task 2 for freer practice, do Q1 together with class as an example. Sts work in pairs and ask and answer the rest of the questions. T monitors and makes note of good examples of TL and errors to correct. Board whilst sts finishing exercise.
7. T reinforces good examples and encourages/helps sts to correct the errors.

Follow up: sts write 5 more questions as homework using 'used to' to ask their partners in the next lesson.

Contributed by Simon Marshall
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Bill – Past



Bill – Present



Task I

Make sentences with **used to** and **didn't use to** about how people lived many hundreds of years ago.

Example:

A. travel/horse **People used to travel by horse**

1. think/earth was flat
.....
2. fight/swords
.....
3. go/to school
.....
4. children/work
.....
5. bigger families
.....
6. television
.....
7. mobile phones
.....
8. drink water
.....

I'm different now

ME AS A CHILD AGED
(any age between 5 and 10)

ME NOW

What games/play?		
What television programmes/watch?		
What hobbies/have?		
What pets/have?		
What music/like?		
What clothes/wear?		
What/look like?		
What/be like?		
What food/like?		
What food/not like?		
What/be frightened of?		
What ambitions/have?		

