

USED TO AND WOULD

We often use **used to + infinitive** as an alternative to **the simple past** to talk about things that we did **repeatedly** in the past.

- Every summer my family **rented** an old house in Newport, Rhode Island. My sister and I **used to** walk to the harbor every morning and watch the fishermen cleaning their nets.

We can also use **used to + infinitive** to talk about **situations or states which have changed**

- I **used to** have much longer hair when I was younger.

We also use **would + infinitive** as an alternative to **used to** to talk about things that we did **repeatedly** in the past.

- Every night before we **went** to bed my mother **would** tell us a story, but she **would** never read them from a book – she **would** always make them up herself.

Would is only used to describe past **habits (= repeated actions)**, **not** past states.

- **NOT I would** have much longer hair when I was younger (Having long hair is a **STATE**, not a repeated action)
- **NOT I would** live in Italy when I was younger (Living in Italy is a **STATE**, not a repeated action)

When we describe **past habits** or **repeated past actions** we tend, for stylistic reasons, to use a mixture of **used to**, **would**, or **the simple past** (with adverbs of frequency). **Used to** and **would** make it clear that you are talking about something that happened **regularly** and often convey a sense of nostalgia.

1 CHOOSE THE CORRECT OPTION. SOMETIMES BOTH ARE CORRECT:

1. When my mom was a kid, she **would / used to** live in a village.
2. People **would / used to** die of diseases in the past that we can cure today.
3. There **would / used to** be a bank on this corner, but they knocked it down.
4. People never **would / used to** be so worried about crime in this area.
5. Ben and I **used to / would** be very close, but recently we've grown apart.
6. Our grandmother **always used to / would always** have a little surprise waiting for us when we visited.
7. My uncle **lived / used to live** on his own because his wife **died / had died** several years earlier.
8. When my brother was a kid, he **didn't use to / wouldn't** look at all like my father, but the older he gets the more he looks like him.
9. When I was small, I **would always / always used to** get into trouble at school and my parents **used to / would** punish me by not letting me play with my friends on the weekend.



CHILDHOOD

2 CREATE SENTENCES USING "USED TO" AND "WOULD" BASED ON THE PROMPTS.

1. A childhood habit you no longer do.

2. An activity you and your friends did regularly in high school.

3. A tradition your family had when you were growing up.

4. Something a family member did often when you were young.

5. A place you visited frequently as a child.

HOMework

3 COMPLETE THE SENTENCES FROM THE VIDEO "ARE YOUR EARLY CHILDHOOD MEMORIES ACTUALLY FALSE?"

1. What was it, if I _____ ask?

2. I remember _____ a pony, and I remember _____ on Santa's lap.

3. I remember _____ down it in my big wheel, and _____ terrified.

4. It's crazy because it's similar _____ one of my first memories, but it was going down a hill at our house in Colorado, and I was on the grass, and I had training wheels, and I remember being completely _____ of control.

5. That's at my grandparent's house, we were getting pretty _____ up, _____ to put on the ho-ho-ho suit.

6. It's probably a _____-up memory.

7. They found that 39 percent reported having their first memory before _____ age _____ two.

8. I think now, with all the photos we _____, and all the phone cameras, we're documenting every moment of their life, and then we're _____ and talking about it, and we're _____ this fake memory, whether they remember it or not.



CHILDHOOD

4 MATCH THE FOLLOWING WORDS WITH THE PICTURES:

STEEP DRIVEWAY, TRAINING WHEELS, PLAYROOM, BIB, CRIB, BIG WHEEL

HOMEWORK



CHILDHOOD

5 DISCUSS THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS. USE USED TO OR WOULD WHERE APPROPRIATE:

CLASSWORK

- What is your earliest childhood memory?
- Do you enjoy being an adult, or would you prefer to be a kid again?
- Did you get along with your siblings when you were growing up?
- Who used to be your favorite teacher at school? Why?
- What used to be your favorite subject in school?
- What was your least favorite subject in school?
- Did you prefer to play outside or indoors when you were a child?
- What smells or sounds can you recall from your childhood?
- What was your favorite toy to play with as a kid?
- What was your favorite pastime when you were young?
- Were you well-behaved as a child or not?
- Did you use to have any annoying habits when you were a child?
- What foods did you refuse to eat when you were younger? Do you eat those foods now?
- Where did you grow up?
- What is the best thing about being a child?
- What is the worst thing about being a child?
- Aside from your parents, who had the biggest impact on your childhood?
- Who did you most admire as a child?

