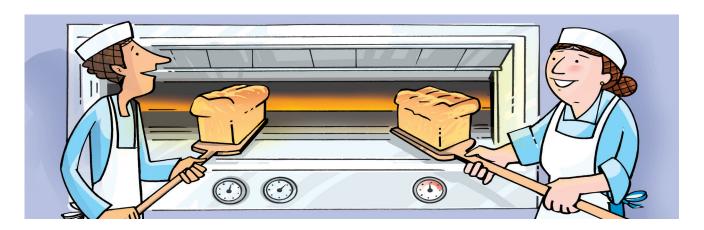
Life

Upper Intermediate Unit 7b

usually, used to, would, be used to and get used to



- A: How do you feel about your new job? Are you getting used to the new routine?
- B: Getting up so early is still a bit difficult. I usually get up at midday!
- A: Really?
- B: Yes, because I used to work in a bar and we would work until after midnight every night.
- A: Did you prefer working in the evenings, then?
- B: No, not at all. I'm used to finishing at midday now and I'm slowly getting used to waking up at four!

Presentation

usually + present simple

Use *usually* + present simple to talk about habits or routine actions: *I usually get up at midnight*.

used to and would + infinitive

Use *used to / didn't use to* to talk about a repeated past action, habit or situation: *I used to work in a bar.*

Use *would* + infinitive to talk about a repeated action or habit in the past. (We normally say when it happened.) *We would work until after midnight every night*.

be used to

Use *be used to* to explain that someone is familiar with a situation or a routine: *I'm used to finishing at midday*.

get used to

Use *get used to* in the present continuous to explain that someone is in the process of becoming familiar with a situation: *I'm getting used to waking up at four!*

Use the past simple to show that the process is complete: *I quickly got used to waking up at four.*

TIP

Use *be/get used to* to talk about the past, present or future.

past: I was / got used to getting up early.

present: I'm / I'm getting used to working in the morning.

future: I'll be / get used to getting up at four.

Upper Intermediate Unit 7b

Exercises

Exercises

3

1 Sook at the verbs in bold. Replace used to with would/wouldn't where possible. Then listen and check.

I 'used to love chocolate. I 'used to eat it all day long. Some days I 'didn't use to eat anything else, until one day I developed an allergy to it — and now I can't eat it anymore!

I **'used to** be scared of the dark. I **'used to** refuse to go into a dark room on my own. My little sister **'used to** hold my hand!

I ⁷**didn't use** to do any sport at all. I ⁸**used to** think I was fit and healthy enough without it. I ⁹**used to** spend all day at my desk and I ¹⁰**never used to** ever get any exercise. But then I broke my leg and I had to follow an intensive exercise programme. I actually enjoyed it and I've kept doing sport ever since.

1	 4	 7	 9	
2	 5	 8	 10	
3	6			

- 2 Rewrite the sentences using used to where possible.
 - 1 I went to belly-dancing classes when I was at school.
 I used to go to belly-dancing classes when I was at school.
 - 2 I started my first classes when I was eight.

We took part in competitions.

- 4 I loved performing in front of an audience.
- 5 I continued dancing for almost six years.
- Then I lost interest and I took up basketball instead.
- 7 I played in the school team and we trained every day of the week.
- We were pretty good and we won three local championships.
- 3 Choose the correct options.
 - A: So, what 'did you used to do / would you do before you became a teacher?
 - B: I ²usually worked / used to work as a banker in the City, in London.
 - A: Why did you decide to become a teacher?
 - B: My working life ³used to be / got used to be very stressful. We ⁴'re used to working / would work ten or twelve hours a day, every day, so I decided it was time for a change.
 - A: Was it difficult to 5be used to / get used to your new lifestyle?

- B: Well, it took me a bit of time to "used to / get used to living on a teacher's salary! And I "m not used to / wouldn't working with kids, but now I'm loving every minute of it well, almost!
- A: And what about your new working routine?
- B: I *usually / used to work long hours, but when I was a banker I *would / got used to only get ten or fifteen days' holiday a year. Now I have six weeks' holiday in the summer that's great!