

'Used to + infinitive':

We use this expression to talk about habits or repeated actions in the past which we don't do in the present. We also use it to talk about states in the past which are no longer true. For example:

I used to have long hair (but now I have short hair).

He used to smoke (but now he doesn't smoke).

They used to live in India (but now they live in Germany).

Watch out! With the negative and the question it's 'use' and not 'used':

Did you use to be a teacher?

Did he use to study French?

She didn't use to like chocolate, but she does now.

I didn't use to want to have a nice house.

'Would + infinitive'

We can also use 'would + infinitive' to talk about a habit or repeated action in the past. We usually use 'would + infinitive' in this way when we're telling a story about the past. So, we can say:

When I was a student, we would often have a drink after class on a Friday.

When I lived in Italy, we would go to a little restaurant near our house.

However, we don't use 'would + infinitive' to talk about states in the past. So, if we're talking about the past, we CAN'T say:

I would have long hair.

I would live in Scotland.



Used to + Infinitive Exercise 2

If it's possible, make a sentence with 'would + infinitive'. If it's not possible, use 'used to + infinitive'.

1. I / have short hair when I was a teenager.

2. We / go to the same little café for lunch every day when I was a student.

3. She / love playing badminton before she hurt her shoulder.

4. He / walk along the beach every evening before bed.

5. I / always lose when I played chess with my father.

6. She / be able to dance very well.

7. My grandfather / drink a cup of coffee after dinner every night.

8. Luke / not have a car.

9. We / live in Brazil.

10. My family / often go to the countryside for the weekend when I was young.
