

UNIT 8

Used to



CHECK POINT

Check the correct answer.

The man is thinking about

- ☐ a habit he has now.
☐ a habit he had in the past.

CHART CHECK 1

Circle T (True) or F (False).

T F In affirmative statements, **used to** is used with all subjects.

AFFIRMATIVE STATEMENTS

SUBJECT	USED TO	BASE FORM OF VERB
I She They	used to	wear jeans.

NEGATIVE STATEMENTS

SUBJECT	DIDN'T USE TO	BASE FORM OF VERB
I She They	didn't use to	wear jeans.

CHART CHECK 2

Check the correct answer.

In questions, what form of **used to** is used?

- ☐ **did . . . used to**
☐ **did . . . use to**

YES/NO QUESTIONS

DID	SUBJECT	USE TO	BASE FORM
Did	you she they	use to	wear jeans?

SHORT ANSWERS

AFFIRMATIVE			NEGATIVE		
Yes,	I she they	did.	No,	I she they	didn't.

WH- QUESTIONS

WH- WORD	DID	SUBJECT	USE TO	BASE FORM
What	did	you she they	use to	wear?

EXPRESS CHECK

Circle the words to complete these sentences.

- He used to / uses to wear baggy jeans.
- Did you use to / used to shop for clothes with your friends?
- What did your parents use to saying / say about your clothes?

Grammar Explanations

Examples

1. Use **used to** + base form of the verb to talk about **past habits** or **past situations** that no longer exist in the present.



- **BE CAREFUL!** **Used to** always has a past meaning. There is no present tense form.

- Leo **used to buy** baggy jeans.
(In the past, he often bought baggy jeans.
He doesn't buy baggy jeans anymore.)

- In his youth, Leo **used to be** thin.
NOT ~~Today Leo used to be thin.~~

2. We usually use **used to** in sentences that **contrast the past and the present**. We often emphasize this contrast by using time expressions such as **now**, **no longer**, and **not anymore** with the present tense.

- Jeans **used to come** only in blue.
Now you can buy them in any color.
- They **used to live** in Genoa, but they **no longer** live there.
- She **used to wear** a size 6, but she doesn't **anymore**.

3. **BE CAREFUL!** Form **questions** with **did** + **use to**.

Form the **negative** with **didn't** + **use to**.

USAGE NOTE: **Used to** is more common in affirmative statements than in negative statements or questions.

- **Did** you **use to** wear jeans?
NOT ~~Did you used to wear jeans?~~
- They **didn't use to** come in different colors.
NOT ~~They didn't used to come ...~~

4. **BE CAREFUL!** Do not confuse **used to** + base form of the verb with the following expressions:

be used to (be accustomed to)

get used to (get accustomed to)

- I **used to wear** tight jeans.
(It was my past habit to wear tight jeans.)
- I'm **used to wearing** tight jeans.
(It is normal for me to wear tight jeans.)
- I **got used to wearing** tight jeans last year.
(I got accustomed to wearing tight jeans.)

1

IDENTIFY • Read this fashion article. Underline all the examples of **used to** that refer to a habit in the past.

In many ways, fashion used to be much simpler. Women didn't use to wear pants to the office, and men's clothes never used to come in bright colors. People also used to dress in special ways for different situations. They didn't use blue jeans as business clothes or wear jogging suits when

they traveled. Today you can go to the opera and find some women in evening gowns while others are in blue jeans. Even buying jeans used to be easier—they came only in blue denim. I'm still not used to buying green jeans and wearing them to work!

2

CHOOSE & COMPLETE • Look at these pictures from an old magazine. Use the verbs in the box with **used to**. Write one sentence about each picture.

~~be~~

carry

dance

dress

have

wear



1. Women's skirts used to be long and formal.



2. All men used to have long hair.



3. Children used to like adults.



4. Men and women used to at formal balls.



5. Women used to wear many petticoats under their skirts.



6. Men used to carry walking sticks.

3 **ASK & ANSWER** • Look at the information about sneakers from 1922. Complete the FAQs*. Use the correct form of **used to**.



STYLE	HIGH-TOP	LOW-TOP
MEN'S	98¢	89¢
WOMEN'S	38¢ WHITE 95¢ BLACK	79¢
BOYS' AND GIRLS'	85¢ SMALL 89¢ LARGE	73¢ SMALL 79¢ LARGE
CHILDREN'S	—	65¢

- Q:** Did sneakers use to come in many colors?
(sneakers / come in many colors?)

A: No. Only in white and black.
- Q:** How many styles did they use to come in?

A: _____
- Q:** _____
(How much / pair of men's high-tops / cost?)

A: _____
- Q:** What about women's sneakers? Did they use to cost the same as men's?

A: _____
- Q:** What kind of sneakers did children use to wear?

A: _____
- Q:** How many sizes did there use to be for boys and girls?

A: _____

*FAQs = Frequently Asked Questions

4 **EDIT** • Read this student's journal. Find and correct five mistakes in the use of **used to**. The first mistake is already corrected.

	When I was younger, clothing didn't ^{use} used to be a problem. All the girls at my
○	school used to wore the same uniform. I used to think that it took away from
	my freedom of choice. Now I can wear what I want, but clothes cost so much!
	Even blue jeans, today's "uniform," used to be cheaper. My mom uses to pay less
	than \$20 for hers. I guess they didn't used to sell designer jeans back then.
	You know, I was used to be against school uniforms, but now I'm not so sure!