

# FCE MINI LESSON

LET'S LEARN ABOUT:  
USED TO / BE USED TO  
/ GET USED TO



POSITIVE	NEGATIVE	QUESTION
<i>used to + infinitive verb</i>	<i>did not / didn't use to + infinitive verb</i>	<i>Did ... use to + infinitive verb?</i>

We use *used to* when we refer to things in the past which are no longer true. It refers to:

repeated actions

*I used to eat in the college cafeteria, but now I bring a packed lunch.*

a state or situation

*That mountain bike used to belong to my best friend.*  
(It belonged to my best friend in the past, but not anymore.)

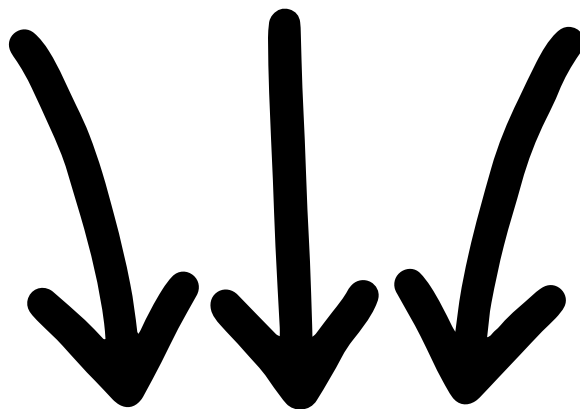
In questions we use *did + use to*:

*You look familiar. Did you use to be in the same class as me in primary school?*

*Be used to* can refer to the past, present or future. It means 'be accustomed to' or 'be familiar with'.

- *be used to* + noun or noun phrase:  
*I work in a fast food restaurant, so I'm used to lots of customers.*
- *be used to* + pronoun:  
*She was brought up in the countryside and hates pollution. She's not used to it.*
- *be used to* + the -ing form of a verb:  
*He was a surgeon until he retired, so he was used to working in demanding situations.*

*College life can be very stressful, but don't worry. You'll soon get used to it. (Or, more formally, You'll soon become used to it.)*



## ACTIVITIES!

EXERCISE: "USED TO" VS. "BE USED TO" VS. "GET USED TO"

FILL IN THE BLANKS WITH THE CORRECT FORM OF "USED TO," "BE USED TO,"  
OR "GET USED TO" IN THE FOLLOWING SENTENCES:

1. I \_\_\_\_\_ (LIVE) IN A SMALL TOWN, BUT NOW I LIVE IN A BIG CITY.
2. SHE \_\_\_\_\_ (NOT/DRIVE) ON THE LEFT SIDE OF THE ROAD, BUT SHE HAD TO LEARN WHEN SHE MOVED TO THE UK.
3. WHEN HE FIRST MOVED TO THE COLD CLIMATE, HE WASN' T \_\_\_\_\_ (DEAL) WITH THE SNOW, BUT NOW HE DOESN' T MIND IT.
4. WE \_\_\_\_\_ (HAVE) A DOG WHEN WE WERE KIDS, BUT NOW WE HAVE A CAT.
5. IT TOOK ME A WHILE TO \_\_\_\_\_ (WAKE) UP EARLY FOR MY NEW JOB, BUT NOW IT' S NO PROBLEM.
6. THEY \_\_\_\_\_ (BE) VEGETARIANS FOR YEARS BEFORE THEY STARTED EATING MEAT AGAIN.
7. ARE YOU \_\_\_\_\_ (WORK) LATE HOURS? YOU ALWAYS SEEM SO ENERGETIC.
8. I \_\_\_\_\_ (STUDY) FRENCH IN HIGH SCHOOL, BUT I' VE FORGOTTEN MOST OF IT.
9. MY PARENTS \_\_\_\_\_ (TRAVEL) TO EUROPE EVERY SUMMER. NOW, THEY PREFER STAYING CLOSER TO HOME.
10. HE' S REALLY \_\_\_\_\_ (EAT) SPICY FOOD. HE HAS IT WITH ALMOST EVERY MEAL.
11. YOU WILL NEED TO \_\_\_\_\_ (GET) WEARING FORMAL CLOTHES IN YOUR NEW OFFICE; IT' S QUITE A STRICT DRESS CODE.
12. I \_\_\_\_\_ (PLAY) THE PIANO QUITE WELL, BUT I HAVEN' T PLAYED IN YEARS.
13. SHE \_\_\_\_\_ (NOT/ENJOY) JOGGING AT FIRST, BUT NOW SHE LOVES IT.
14. AT FIRST, THE NOISE FROM THE TRAINS BOTHERED ME, BUT I QUICKLY BECAME \_\_\_\_\_ (IT).
15. THEY \_\_\_\_\_ (GO) CAMPING DURING THE SUMMER WHEN THEY WERE YOUNGER.



## ANSWERS

1. USED TO LIVE
2. WASN' T USED TO DRIVING
3. USED TO DEALING
4. USED TO HAVE
5. GET USED TO WAKING
6. WERE USED TO BEING
7. USED TO WORKING
8. USED TO STUDY
9. USED TO TRAVEL
10. IS USED TO EATING
11. GET USED TO
12. USED TO PLAY
13. DIDN' T USE TO ENJOY
14. USED TO IT
15. USED TO GO