

FUMC ESL 3-10-2016 Level 3 Lesson

I am sorry that I had to miss on Monday. I heard you had trouble with the “used to” lesson, so we are going to work on “used to” again today.

If a person is “used to” something, it is familiar or she has experienced it so much that it is no longer strange or new. It can be used in the positive or negative sense, as in “used to” or “not used to”.

EX: I’ve lived in Central London for six years now, so I’m used to the noise.

At the beginning I couldn’t understand Americans, because I wasn’t used to the accent.

Pronunciation Note: Used to blends together such that the “d” sound on “used” is lost. It sounds like USETO.

“To be” verbs plus “used to” can be followed by ING forms, but **not** by infinitives.

EX: I am used to drinking coffee, but everyone here drinks tea.

NOT: I am used to drink coffee, but everyone here drinks tea.

EX: I am used to driving on the right side of the road.

NOT: I am used to drive on the right side of the road.

You do not have to follow “used to” with a verb. You can follow it with a noun or pronoun.

EX: She bothered me at first, but I am used to her now. The children are used to their new stepmother.

You can add “quite” or “very”. EX: I am quite used to studying alone. OR I am very used to traveling on trains by myself.

The verbs “get”, “become” and “grow” can also be used before “used to”.

EX: You’ll soon get used to living in a foreign country. Little by little, we became used to the idea of living abroad. It took a long time to grow used to waking up at 5AM. I can’t get used to the hot weather here. Have you gotten used to the bland food they serve in the school cafeteria?

As you learned on Monday, “used to” can also mean something that you did in the past but don’t any more. In this form, “used to” is followed by an infinitive, not the ING form.

EX: I used to take tennis lessons at the park. NOT I used to taking tennis lessons at the park.

Sara used to come to lunch with us. NOT Sara used to coming to lunch with us.

Related to this usage, you can use “used to” to refer to a place that is no longer there. In this usage, “used to” is followed by “to be”

EX: There used to be a nice restaurant in that building, but it’s been replaced by a coffee house.

The post office used to be next to the bank.

Try making “used to” sentences, given the information in the sentences below.

1. Previously John worked in a bank.
2. For years, Mary worked for herself. Now she works for a big company. She is not adjusting well to the change.
3. Come on sleepyhead. Get out of bed. We have to rush to the airport if we want to make our flight. It’s 4 AM. It feels like the middle of the night. _____
4. When we were little, we went to church every Sunday.
5. A small grocery store was located there in 2005.

6. Last winter, I practiced yoga every morning.
7. Mark eats dessert after every meal.
8. She is wearing high heels for the very first time.
9. I just got a new camera. It has more features than my old camera.
10. My wife's family is very large and loud. I am an only child.
11. The food here is very strange. It is very different from the food at home.
12. We seldom eat beef in my country. We eat more fish and rice.
13. When I was young, I was a Democrat. Now that I'm older, I vote Republican
14. When I was a girl, we wore uniforms to school.
15. I visited my grandmother every weekend when I was young.
16. Before I came here, I played piano every day.
17. At my old church, we sang the same songs every Sunday.
20. Before we were married, my husband and I often went dancing.
18. There was a little grocery store on the corner, but now it has been replaced by a supermarket.
19. As a young girl I had long hair.

DISCUSS:

1. Have your tastes changed in furniture and decor? Do you still like the same styles you used to like? For example, I used to like very traditional furniture, but now I like more contemporary styles.
2. How did you used to wear your hair when you were young? Do you wear it shorter or longer now? Do you color your hair now? Did you used to color your hair?
3. What are some things that you miss about your home country? What are some activities you used to do regularly that you don't do here?
4. Describe things that you used to do as a child.
5. What are some things your mother used to do for you that made you feel loved?
6. Talk about some things you had to get used to when you moved to Austin.