



USED TO DO VS. BE/GET USED TO DOING



Scan to review worksheet

Expemo code:
1EN9-71LB-6E3



1

Presentation

Study the grammar point below.

be / get used to ...

We use the structure **be used to something / be used to doing something** when we say that something is normal for us, not strange or new:

- *I get up early every morning to go to work. It isn't something new or strange for me. **I am used to getting** up early.*
- **A:** "How can you live in this building? There is so much noise"
B: "It's not a problem. **I am used to it.**"
- *Anu **wasn't used to** the hot weather in Greece. She is from Finland.*
- *John is from England. He **is used to driving** on the left.*

We use the structure **get used to something / get used to doing something** when we say that something becomes normal for us.

- *After living in Greece for a year, Anu **got used to** the hot weather.*
- *Robert had always lived with his parents. Then he went to university and started to live alone. It was strange at first, but he **got used to** it in the end.*
- *Sandra's new boss was very demanding at first, but she **got used to** him.*

**used to do**

We say I **used to** do something when we talk about something we did regularly in the past, but do not do it now. In the negative we say **I didn't use to do something**:

- *I **used to** live in a large city, but now I live by the seaside. I **didn't use to** go swimming everyday.*

Do not confuse this structure with **be used to doing something**.

Dialogue

A: What do you think of our cold weather? **Are you used to it** yet?

B: Yes, I **got used to it** very quickly. I **used to live** in Canada, you know.

2 Be/get used to

Complete the sentences below with *be used to* or *get used to* in a suitable tense.

1. When James moved to Sweden, it took him a few years to _____ the cold weather.
2. They live in a small village. They _____ noise and pollution.
3. I come from a big city, so when I moved to the countryside, I just couldn't _____ the slow pace of life.
4. Harry is a builder. He _____ physical work.
5. Jacob's wife _____ his difficult character. They've lived together for almost 20 years.
6. Living with a flatmate was a bit strange at first. But after a while, I _____ it.
7. How was your year in London? _____ you _____ the rain in the end?



Study the situations below and create a sentence using *be/get used to + -ing*.

1. When James spoke in public for the first time, he was very nervous.

2. Paul doesn't feel tired after working 12 hours a day. He does it every day.

3. After a few months, Allie became able to live alone without feeling lonely.

4. It has become much easier for Miguel to cook for more than one person.

5. When Kate started her new job, she had to get up very early. This was difficult for her.

6. Sam will work under stress in his new job. This will become normal for him.

Now answer the following questions about you:

1. Is there anything in your work or life that you are used to (which might be strange or difficult for other people)?
2. Think of a big change in your life. What did you get used to after a while? Was there anything you couldn't get used to?
3. Think of an exotic country. Imagine that you are going to move there very soon. What would you need to get used to?

3**Used to do**

Complete the sentences with *use(d) to + a suitable verb*.

1. I _____ a lot of chocolate, but I gave it up a year ago.
2. When I was a child, I _____ with my sister's toys all the time.
3. Janet hardly ever goes out these days. She _____ so much time at home.
4. I _____ to work by train. Now I have my own car.
5. _____ a lot of textbooks when you were a student?
6. There _____ a theatre next to the hotel. Now it's a department store.
7. How come you speak French so well? _____ in France?
8. Alan _____ German very well. I think he must be out of practice.



Look at Martin fifteen years ago when he won the lottery compared to today. Write about how his lifestyle has changed using used to / didn't use to and the present simple or infinitive. Use the verbs below to help you form sentences.



afford be borrow count date have lend
make need smoke drink think travel

1. He used to drink cognac every day, but now he only drinks tea.
2. He _____ a lot of money, but now he _____ very poor.
3. He _____ so poor, but now he must _____ every penny.
4. He _____ cigars every day, but now he cannot _____ such luxuries.
5. He _____ about work, but now he _____ a job.
6. He _____ all around the world, but he _____ these days.
7. He _____ a lot of women, but nowadays he _____ many friends.
8. He _____ a lot of money to his friends, but now he _____ money from them.

What lifestyle changes does Martin have to get used to? Write a few sentences using the structure 'He has to get used to ...'

Talk or write about what you used to or didn't use to do when you were younger and how your lifestyle is different now.



4

Discussion

Work in pairs or small groups.

- Take turns selecting a cue card.
- Use the cue card to start a conversation about the topic with your partner(s).
- Discuss each topic for 3-5 minutes.
- Try to use the vocabulary and grammar structures you've learnt.

Cue Cards:

Playing a musical instrument:

Discuss playing a musical instrument as a hobby.

- Have you ever played an instrument?
- How long have you been playing?
- **Are you used to** practising regularly?

Playing sports:

Discuss playing sports as a hobby.

- What sports do you enjoy playing?
- How often do you play?
- **Were you used to** playing sports regularly in the past?

Learning a new language:

Share your thoughts on learning a new language as a hobby.

- Do you enjoy learning languages?
- Which languages are you learning?
- **Are you used to** practising regularly?



Reading Books:

Talk about reading books as a hobby.

- Do you enjoy reading?
- What kind of books do you like to read?
- **Were you used to** reading a lot when you were younger?

