

G3 Expressing past habits with *used to* and *would*

a) Used to

1. Bildung

Positive form:

used to + infinitive

Negative form:

didn't use to / used not to / never used to

Question sentences:

did / didn't ... use to + infinitive

2. Verwendung

- There is only the past tense form used to. There is no present tense form.
- **Used to** can express activities and states and can be used with all verbs.
- When translated into German, you can sometimes use *früher* or *immer* to stress that this happened in the past and no longer happens now. Sometimes **used to** is not translated at all.

3. Beispiele

3.1 Positive sentences:

→ I **used to take** the bus to school.

3.2 Negative sentences:

→ I **didn't use to learn** this much.

→ I **never used to dance**.

→ I **used not to skip** the gym.

3.3 Question sentences:

→ **Did** you **use to play** football?

→ **Didn't** your father **use to buy** you new clothes every month?

b) Would

1. Bildung

would / wouldn't + infinitive

2. Verwendung

- **Would + infinitive** can only express activities and is therefore only used with dynamic verbs.

3. Beispiele

→ I **would visit** my grandparents once a month.

→ Although I **wouldn't lie** to my parents.