

Navigate
Pre-intermediate B1
Week 10 - Unit 11 - world
used to



used to - explanation

- Our grandmothers used to have fifteen dresses.
- She used to play with her grandpa.
- I used to swim once a week when I was at university.
- He used to like playing squash but today he plays tennis.



used to - explanation

Source: Krantz, C., Norton, J. *Navigate B1 Pre-intermediate – Coursebook*. OUP: 2015.
Unit 11 p. 108 ex. 4

- 4 Read the article again and match each paragraph to a heading a–e. There is one heading which you don't need.
- a From the still to the moving image
 - b From the few to the many
 - c From professional reporter to citizen journalist
 - d From local to national
 - e From weeks to minutes

Media milestones

1 _____

The first newspapers appeared in the 17th century, but ordinary people didn't use to buy them often because they were expensive. This changed in the 1850s with the invention of powerful printing presses, which could print 10,000 papers per hour. As a result, newspaper prices came down and more people could afford to buy them. Thanks to another new invention, the photograph, it was also the first time that newspapers contained pictures as well as **articles**.

2 _____

When a volcano erupted on the Pacific island of Krakatoa in 1883, it killed 36,000 people. It was one of the worst **natural disasters** in history. It was also significant because it was the first time that news could travel around the world in minutes, using undersea electrical telegraph wires. Before the telegraph was invented, it used to take weeks for news to travel to a different continent. News of Abraham Lincoln's death, for example, took nearly two weeks to **reach** Europe in 1865.

3 _____

In the early 20th century, before televisions became popular, people used to go to the cinema to watch the news. Ten-minute films called 'news reels' contained moving images of four or five top news stories. The news reels were changed **weekly**, not daily, so the news wasn't always **up to date**. Nowadays, they are important as historical documents, as they provide the only audiovisual records of those times.

4 _____

At the start of the 21st century, developments in smartphone technology and the growth of **social media** like Twitter, Facebook and Instagram have completely changed the way that we get our news. Now anybody can **report** news. This is sometimes called 'citizen journalism'. One of the first and most famous examples of it happened in New York in 2009 when a plane carrying 150 passengers landed in the Hudson River after a flock of birds flew into the plane's engine. People who saw the **crash** posted comments and photos on Twitter and the news **spread** around the world in minutes. Professional **journalists** didn't arrive at the scene until 15 minutes later.

SHARE

TWEET

EMAIL

used to - explanation

Source: Krantz, C., Norton, J. *Navigate B1 Pre-intermediate – Coursebook*. OUP: 2015.
Unit 11 p. 109 ex. 5

- 5 Look at these sentences and answer the questions.
- a People used to go to the cinema to watch the news.
 - b Ordinary people didn't use to buy newspapers very often.
- 1 Do people go to the cinema to see the news now?
 - 2 Did they go to the cinema once or more than once?
 - 3 Do people buy more newspapers now?
 - 4 How do we make the negative form of *used to*?

Source: Krantz, C., Norton, J. *Navigate B1 Pre-intermediate – Coursebook*. OUP: 2015.
Unit 11 p. 109 ex. 6

GRAMMAR FOCUS *used to*

- We use *used to* + infinitive to talk about habits and situations that were true in the past but are ¹_____ true now.
It used to take weeks for news to travel to a different continent.
- We can't use *used to* to talk about something which only happened ²_____.
In 2009 a plane crashed in the Hudson river.
NOT ~~*In 2009 a plane used to crash in the Hudson River.*~~
- We use the auxiliary verb ³_____ in negative sentences and questions.
In the past people didn't use to send texts. How did people use to get their news?

→ Grammar Reference page 155

used to - practice

- Source: Krantz, C., Norton, J. *Navigate B1 Pre-intermediate – Coursebook*. OUP: 2015. Unit 11 p. 109 ex. 7

7 Rewrite the sentences with *used to/didn't use to* where possible.

- 1 Mobile phones didn't have cameras.
- 2 In the 1940s, people listened to the radio to get the latest news.
- 3 Jack Dorsey, who started Twitter, sent the world's first tweet in 2006.
- 4 Before the 1850s, newspapers didn't contain photos.
- 5 Newspaper apps became popular in the early 21st century.
- 6 Before the telegraph, it took ten days by horse to deliver news across the USA.

used to - summary

Positive and negative

GR11.2)))

	Subject	Auxiliary	<i>used to</i>	Infinitive
+	People		used to	send telegrams.
-	We	didn't	use to	have a TV.

Questions

Auxiliary	Subject	<i>used to</i>	Infinitive
Did	you	use to	watch videos at school?

We use *used to* + infinitive to talk about regular actions and situations that were true in the past but are not true now.

- We can't use *used to* when we talk about something which happened once.

I wrote a news article once.

NOT ~~*I used to write a news article once.*~~

- We use the auxiliary *didn't/did* in negative sentences and questions with the infinitive of *use*.

*My sister and I **didn't use to** like the television news.*

Did your dad **use to** read a newspaper at breakfast?

- We can use *used to* to compare the past and the present.

*News programmes **used to** be more boring than they are now.*

- We don't use *used to* when we talk about a single period of time or the number of occasions.

I was on the television five times.

NOT ~~*I used to be on the television five times.*~~

He presented the news on Channel 3 for ten years.

NOT ~~*He used to present the news on Channel 3 for ten years.*~~

We don't use *used to* + infinitive when we want to talk about a present action: use *usually*.

*I **usually** get my news online these days.*

NOT ~~*I used to get my news online these days.*~~

- Source: Krantz, C., Norton, J. *Navigate B1 Pre-intermediate – Coursebook*. OUP: 2015. Unit 11 p. 155