

"I used to" vs "I am used to"

"Used to" + Infinitive describes something in the past that happened for a long time, but no longer happens now.


Eg. *I walked to school yesterday.* (1 time, finished)



vs

I used to walk to school when I was a kid. (Happened over a long period, no longer happens)



 1. Complete the sentences below with "used to" + infinitive. Choose any verb that makes sense in the context. More than one answer may be possible.

- a) He*used to be*..... nice, but now he's really mean.
- b) We songs in the car when I was a kid.
- c) I in a café, but now I work in an office.
- d) I every day, but I injured my knee so I can't anymore.
- e) This city a lot of parks, but now everything is just buildings.
- f) My brother meat, but he became a vegetarian last year.
- g) Music a lot more expensive before the internet

 2. Think of 3 sentences using "used to" to compare your past to your present.

Eg. *"I used to hate pop music, but now I like it."*

“To be” + “used to” describes something we are familiar with and that is normal to us.

Eg. *I have lived in Russia all my life, so I am used to the cold weather.*

This means the speaker is O.K with the cold weather, because it is normal to them.

If we use a verb after “to be” + “used to”, the verb must end with “ing”

Eg *I live alone, so I am used to eating alone.*



3. Complete the sentences below with “to be” + “used to”

- a) It's a long walk to work, but I do it every day, so I *am used to* it.
- b) I'm a freelance web designer, so I *am used to working* (work) from home.
- c) My boss *is not used to* (not) the new software yet, but he's getting better.
- d) I'm a baker, so I *am used to waking* (wake up) early.
- e) His mom buys him everything, he *is used to getting* (get) everything he wants.
- f) I live in the countryside, so I *am not used to seeing* (not/see) so many people.



4. Make three sentences about what you are used to. It could be about weather, food, transport, or habits in general.

We often use “to be” + “get used to” to talk about the *process* of becoming used to something.

Eg. *I moved to Russia a year ago, so I am getting used to the weather*

Or

If you start this new job you will have to get used to the long hours.



5. Ask and answer the questions with a partner

- a) What is a show you used to watch as a kid?
- b) What is something you are used to because of where you live?
- c) What is something you could never get used to?



6. Circle the correct option in the story below.

I used to/am used to/get used to live in Japan, but now I live in Russia. It's really nice here, but I am still used to/am still getting used to/ still used to the food. It's much heavier than Japanese food, with a lot more meat and potatoes. My wife is Russian, so she used to/get used to/is used to the food already. The strange thing is, when we lived in Japan she got used to/is used to/used to cook Russian food for me, but now we live in Russia she makes Sushi all the time! I used to/am used to/am getting used to cook a lot for her too, but I recently got a promotion at work and now I rarely have the time or energy to cook. To be honest I am not used to/didn't used to/didn't get used to working such long hours, my last job was only part time. But I used to/am getting used to/am used to it. Every day it gets a bit easier. As my grandad is used to/got used to/used to say: "If you don't like it, change it, and if you can't change it, then you'd better get used to/be used to/used to it." And unfortunately, I can't change my work hours.



7. Think of a time in your life when you got used to something new. Write down the story of that time. Try to use all 3 structures: "used to" + infinitive (past), "to be" + used to (familiar with), and "to be" + "get used to" (process of becoming familiar with).
