

Unit 10

10.1 Verb patterns 2

Verb patterns were first covered in Unit 5. There is a list of verb patterns on p143.

- Verb + *to* + infinitive
They **managed to escape**.
I **try to visit** somewhere new.
We **decided to go** abroad.
- go* + *-ing* for sports and activities
Let's **go skiing**.
We **went swimming**.
- Verb + *sb* + infinitive without *to*
My teachers **made me work** hard.
My parents **let me go out** when I want.

10.2 *used to*

Form

used to + *to* + infinitive

Used to is the same in all persons.

Positive and negative

I		
She	used to	smoke.
We	didn't use to	like cooking.
They		

Question

What did you use to do?

Short answer

Did you use to smoke a lot? Yes, I did./No, I didn't.

Note

- The question form is not often used. We ask a question in the Past Simple, and reply using *used to*.
Where did you go on holiday when you were young?
We **used to go** camping in France.
- Never* is often used.
I **never used to** watch TV.
- Be careful not to confuse *to use* (e.g. *I use a knife to cut an apple.*) and *used to*.
The pronunciation is also different.
to use /ju:z/ *used to* /ju:stu:/ or /ju:stə/

Use

Used to is used:

- to express a past habit.
He **used to** play football every Saturday, but now he doesn't.
- to express a past state.
They **used to** be happy together, but now they fight all the time.

10.3 *used to* and the Past Simple

- The Past Simple can also be used to express a past habit or state.
He **played** football every Sunday when he was a boy.
They **were** happy together when they **were** first married.
- Only the Past Simple can be used for actions which happened once in the past.
We **used to go** to France every summer, but once, in 1987, we **went** to Greece.
Last night I **stayed** at home.

Note

Used to has no equivalent in the present. The Present Simple is used for present habits and states.

She **lives** in New York.

She **sometimes comes** to London on business.

10.4 Infinitives

- Infinitives are used to express purpose. They answer the question *Why ... ?* This use is very common in English.
I'm learning English **to get** a good job.
She's saving her money **to buy** a car.
I'm going to Scotland **to visit** my parents.

Note

Some languages express this idea of purpose with a translation of *for* + infinitive. English does not use *for*.

I came here **to learn** English.

NOT I came here ~~for to~~ learn English.

I came here ~~for~~ learn English.

- Infinitives are used after certain adjectives.

I'm	pleased	to see you.
	surprised	
It's	hard	to learn Chinese.
	important	
	impossible	

- Infinitives are used after the question words *who*, *what*, *where*, *how*, etc.
Can you tell me **how to get** to the station?
I don't know **who to speak** to.
Show me **what to do**.
- Infinitives are used after the compounds *something*, *nothing*, *nowhere*, *anybody*, etc.
Have **something to eat**!
I've got **nothing to do**.
There's **nowhere to hide**.
Is there **anyone to talk to**?