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Basics: Used To - Past Habits and States

Medium | A2 | Elementary | Pre-intermediate | Be | Modal verb | Auxiliary verb | Habitual aspect | Past tense | English Grammar Basics

1. Fill in the blanks in the superhero's dramatic origin story.

Before the radioactive spider bite, I _____ thick glasses. I also _____ any muscles at all. Look at me now: I have perfect vision and I can lift a car!

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- **A)** used to wear
- **B)** use to wear
- **C)** am used to wearing

Blank 2

- **A)** didn't use to have
- **B)** didn't used to have
- **C)** don't use to have

2. Complete the journalist's interview questions for our new alien visitor.

I am very curious, Zorg, _____ fly a spaceship to school? Also, where exactly _____ park all the UFOs on your home planet?

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- **A)** did you use to
- **B)** did you used to
- **C)** are you used to

Blank 2

- **A)** did they use to
- **B)** did they used to
- **C)** do they used to

3. A scientist is interrogating a very confused time traveler from the prehistoric era. Select ALL the questions that are grammatically correct.

Select all that apply.

- **A)** Did you use to ride a T-Rex to work?
- **B)** Did people use to keep velociraptors as pets?
- **C)** Did you used to riding a T-Rex to work?
- **D)** Were you use to ride a T-Rex to work?

4. Complete the confession of a nostalgic older sister.

When we were kids, my brother ___ think that broccoli was made of tiny trees, and he would refuse to eat the "forest."

Select one.

- **A)** used to
- **B)** use to
- **C)** was used to
- **D)** uses to

5. Complete the teenager's interview questions for her grandfather's history project.

"Grandpa, _____ memorize all of your friends' phone numbers? And where _____ for fun before the internet was invented?"

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- **A)** did you use to
- **B)** did you used to
- **C)** were you used to

Blank 2

- **A)** did you use to go
- **B)** did you used to go
- **C)** do you use to go

6. Help the college student write a funny email to her mom about how much she has changed.

Before college, I _____ drink coffee at all. Now, I can't survive an 8 AM lecture without it! I also _____ care about getting enough sleep, but a good nap is my favorite hobby these days.

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- **A)** wasn't used to
- **B)** didn't use to
- **C)** haven't used to

Blank 2

- **A)** don't use to
- **B)** didn't use to
- **C)** not used to

7. Help the quirky tour guide finish his speech about the town's famous haunted mansion! Select ALL the sentences that correctly describe a past state.

Select all that apply.

- **A)** People used to believe a ghost lived in the attic.
- **B)** The mansion used to belong to a wealthy pirate.
- **C)** People would believe a ghost lived in the attic.
- **D)** The mansion was used to belong to a wealthy pirate.

8. A retired pirate is comparing his old life with his new one. Help him finish his story by choosing the correct words for each gap.

When I was a young pirate, I _____ sail the seas every day. These days I live in a quiet cottage, and I _____ sleep until noon.

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- **A)** usually
- **B)** use to
- **C)** used to

Blank 2

- **A)** usually
- **B)** used to
- **C)** use to

9. Complete the student's nostalgic blog post about growing up.

When I was a little kid, I _____ think that the moon followed my parents' car. Now I know it's just an optical illusion! My younger brother and I _____ argue in the backseat about who the moon liked better.

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- **A)** used to
- **B)** use to
- **C)** am used to

Blank 2

- **A)** used to
- **B)** uses to
- **C)** didn't used to

10. Help the nostalgic accountant describe his wild college rock band days. Select ALL the sentences that correctly express a past habit.

Select all that apply.

- **A)** We used to practice in my parents' garage every Friday.
- **B)** We practiced in my parents' garage every Friday.
- **C)** We are used to practice in my parents' garage every Friday.
- **D)** We used to practicing in my parents' garage every Friday.

11. Help the famous food critic confess her childhood eating habits to her readers.

Believe it or not, I _____ like vegetables at all. In fact, I only _____ plain pasta and cheese!

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- **A)** didn't use to
- **B)** didn't used to
- **C)** not used to

Blank 2

- **A)** used to eat
- **B)** use to eat
- **C)** used to eating

12. Choose the correct phrase to complete the teenager's interview with their grandfather.

Grandpa, ___ memorize everyone's phone numbers before smartphones were invented?

Select one.

- **A)** did you used to
- **B)** were you used to
- **C)** do you use to
- **D)** did you use to

13. Complete the celebrity chef's interview about her childhood eating habits. Select ALL the grammatically correct options to fill in the blank.

"Believe it or not, I _____ vegetables when I was a kid! Now I run a famous vegetarian restaurant."

Select all that apply.

- **A)** didn't use to eat
- **B)** never used to eat
- **C)** didn't used to eating
- **D)** wasn't used to eat

14. Complete Grandpa Joe's slightly exaggerated memoir about his youth.

My grandfather _____ a famous magician. He _____ rabbits out of his hat every single Sunday!

Choose the correct option for each gap.

Blank 1

- **A)** used to be
- **B)** use to be
- **C)** used to being

Blank 2

- **A)** used to pull
- **B)** use to pull
- **C)** used to pulling

15. Complete the local tour guide's dramatic story about the town's history.

Believe it or not, this boring dental clinic ___ a terrifying haunted mansion back in the 1980s!

Select one.

- **A)** used to
- **B)** used to be
- **C)** was used to
- **D)** uses to be