

## UNLOCKING THE SECRETS OF TEACHING THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN

“WOULD” AND “USED TO”

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### **Abstract:**

Unfortunately, some English learners have difficulties to differentiate between "used to" and "would" when talking about past habits. Interestingly, the English language offers several ways to express past habits but these two are the most common. This article will explain and provide the key differences between these two grammatical structures by providing clear life examples and explanations to remove any confusion and misunderstandings.

**Key words:** habits, past, confusion and misunderstandings.

### **Аннотация:**

К сожалению, некоторые изучающие английский язык испытывают трудности с различением «used to» и «would» при описании прошлых привычек. Интересно, что английский язык предлагает несколько способов выразить прошлые привычки, но эти два являются наиболее распространенными. В данной статье будут объяснены и предоставлены ключевые различия между этими двумя грамматическими структурами с помощью наглядных примеров из жизни и пояснений, чтобы устранить путаницу и недоразумения.

**Ключевые слова:** привычки, прошлое, путаница и недоразумения.

### **Introduction:**

These two verbs "used to" and "would" are mainly used to discuss past

habits but their main differences will be discussed and the most effective strategies will be given to explain how to teach them easily. First and foremost, teachers are supposed to explain the functions of these two. Initially, starting with "Used To". Teachers have to explain that "Used to" is used for habits and states. By saying "Used to" describes past habits or states that are no longer true. Teachers may ask students what they used to do when they were children. Adding the fact that they are no longer doing those things. After that, teachers are supposed to give life long examples by their own. For example:- Habit: "I used to run every day." (Habitual action which is no longer practiced);- State: "She used to live in Uzbekistan." (State of residence which is no longer the case). As for "Would", it is suggested to give explain firstly by saying:

"Would" is used for repeated actions in the past. Importantly to mention, "Would" focuses specifically on repeated actions in the past which are usually within a larger context already set. Teachers have to mention that "Would" cannot be used to describe states of being. It is important to mention again; Teachers ought to provide examples to make it clear to understand. For example: - For repeated action: "Every Tuesday, I would go for a walk in the Central park." (Describes a recurring activity within the established context of Tuesdays.) Importantly, educators are supposed to mention that "Would" cannot be used as "Used to" for states of being. To make it clear, teachers have to give an example like:- Incorrect usage for states: "She would live in Uzbekistan." (Incorrect; "She used to live in Uzbekistan" is correct.)

### **Conclusion:**

All in all, these two verbs such as "used to" and "would" describe past habits, understanding their main differences is important for accurate and comprehensive communication. "Used to" is used for both habitual actions and states of being, while "would" focuses mainly on repeated actions. This article has given the most effective strategies to teach "Used

to” and “Would” properly and clearly.

**Reference:**

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