Module: English

Level: 3rd year LMD

Branch: Accounting and Taxing

Lecture five : « Used to » for habitual events

➤ If we say something used to happen, we are talking about repeated events, and actions in the past, usually things that happend along time ago, and are now finished. To express this we can use « Used to ».

Eg1: When i was young, i used to play with my dolls.

Eg2: we used to get out a lot in the summer.

If you want to talk about repeated states or habits in the past, you should « used to » :

Eg1: My dog used to bark at cats

Eg2: He used to smoke

Eg3: I used to be an administrative assistant

Eg4: I used to live in England

The question form when asking a closed a question is « did you use » or « didn't you use » :

Eg1: Did they use to own the company?

Eg2: Didn't we use to go to the same school?

Eg3: What sort of things did you use to like when you were young?

The negative form of « used to » is « did not use to » :

Eg1: I didn't use to play with my dolls

Eg2: we didn't use to go out much in the winter months.

The general rule is when there is (did or didn't » in the sentence, we say « use to » without « ed ».

Activity : Please write 5 sentences which express habitual events using « used to ».