

COURSE GUIDE **MODULE 8**

VOCABULARY & GRAMMAR (VG)

PART 2

A2

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School subjects



Math (Mathematics)



Literature



Geography



Art



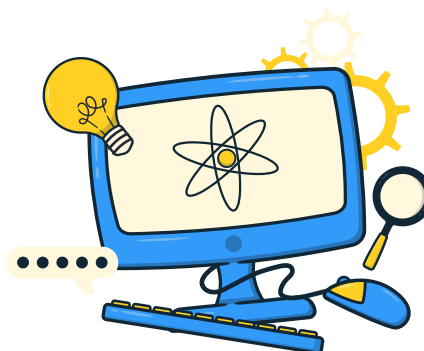
Music



PE (Physical Education)



English

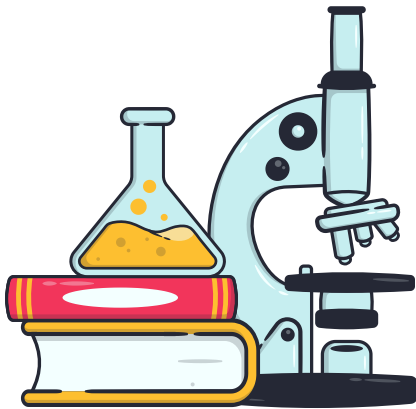


Computer Science

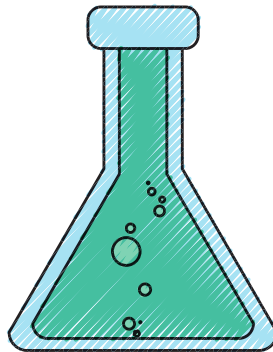


Philosophy

School subjects



Science



Chemistry



Biology



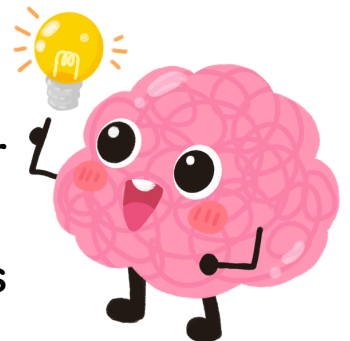
Physics

What is your favorite subject in school or college?

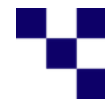
My favorite subject in school/college is _____

What was your favorite subject in school or college?

My favorite subject in school/college was



Grammar focus: Used to



Past habits or states that are no longer true. Works with actions and states.

- I used to like drawing.

Forms and structures:

Affirmative: Subject + used to + base verb.

- I used to play football after school.

Negative: Subject + didn't use to + base verb.

- I didn't use to like Math.
- Exam tip: Do not say "didn't used to." Instead, use "didn't use to" in tests.
- Formal alternative: used not to. E.g., She used not to live in this city.

Question: Did + subject + use to + base verb?

- Did you use to study History at that school?
- Short answers: Yes, I did. / No, I didn't.



Grammar focus: Would



Habitual actions in the past:

- Use **would** to talk about repeated actions in the past, especially in stories.
- Structure: Subject + **would** + base verb.
- Examples:
 - Last year, we **would** meet every Tuesday in a cafe.



Important rule — states vs actions:

- **Would** is only for actions you did again and again in the past.
- For past states such as feelings, situations, and descriptions, apply “**used to**,” not **would**.

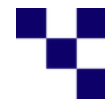


- Correct: I **used to** live in Melbourne when I was a kid.
- Incorrect: I **would** live in Melbourne when I was a kid.

Negative and question forms: In this case, we use “**did + use to**.”

- Question: Did you **use to** play football?
- Negative: I **didn't use to** like spinach.

Grammar focus: Existence



When we want to talk about something or someone that existed or was in a place in the past, we use “there was” or “there were.”

- There was - singular (one thing or person)
- There were - plural (many things or people)



- ▶ There were books on the shelf
- ▶ There wasn't a marker in the science lab.
- ▶ There weren't chairs in the science lab.
- ▶ Was there a computer lab?
Yes, there was. / No, there wasn't
- ▶ Were there many books in the science lab?
Yes, there were. / No, there weren't

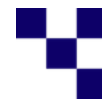
▶ There was a science lab in my school

Structure:

- Affirmative: There + was/were + noun.
- Negative: There + wasn't/weren't + noun.
- Question: Was/Were + there + noun?
- Short answers: Yes, there was. / No, there weren't.

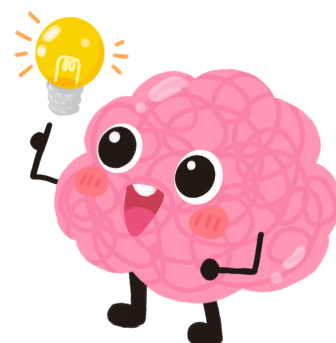


Grammar focus: Existence



When to use "a / an", "some", or "any" with there was / there were

Use	Structure with there was / there were	Positive example	Negative / Question example
A / An — one single, countable item	There + was + a / an + singular noun	There was a math book on the desk.	There wasn't a math book on the desk. / Was there a math book on the desk?
Some — positive sentences with plural countable or uncountable nouns	There + were/was + some + plural/uncountable noun	There were some maps in geography class. / There was some water in the lab.	(Use any for negative/questions)
Any — negatives and questions with plural countable or uncountable nouns	There + weren't/wasn't + any + plural/uncountable noun; Was/Were + there + any + ... ?	—	There weren't any maps in geography class. / Were there any maps in geography class?
Number or quantity — specific amount (use number or quantifier)	There + were/was + number/quantifier + noun	There were three science books on the shelf. / There was a lot of homework.	There weren't three science books on the shelf. / Was there a lot of homework?
Lists — follow the first item (singular → was; plural → were)	There + was/were + list (choose was/were by first item)	There was a notebook, two pens, and a ruler on the desk.	There weren't any notebooks or pens on the desk.



Memories of my old school



When I attended my old school, there was a small science lab next to the library. There were three microscopes and some books about plants. I used to go to the lab after class, and we would do small experiments every Wednesday.

There was a music room on the second floor. We would practise songs for the school concert every Friday. My friend Ana used to play the piano, and she would help us learn the songs. There weren't many computers in the computer room, but there was an old projector and some chairs.

One day, I asked Ana, "Did you use to take art classes?" She answered, "Yes, I did. I used to draw every week." I asked, "Was there a chess club at your school?" She said, "No, there wasn't, but there was an art club on Saturdays."

At break time, there were many students in the yard. We used to play football, and we would sit under the big tree to talk about homework. I didn't use to like History, but I used to love English, and I would read stories during free time.

Those days were simple and happy. There was a friendly teacher in every class, and there were new books on the shelves. Did you use to enjoy school when you were younger? Were there any clubs you liked?

Examples showing grammar and how to use it



Used to — past habits or states:

- I used to go to the lab after class.
 - (habit: regular activity in the past)
- My friend Ana used to play the piano.
 - (past ability/habit)
- I didn't use to like History.
 - (negative: past habit that is no longer true)

Would — repeated past actions (actions only):

- We would do small experiments every Wednesday.
 - (repeated action in the past)
- We would practise songs for the school concert every Friday.
 - (habitual action, often in stories)
- I would read stories during free time.
 - (repeated action, not a state)

Examples showing grammar and how to use it



Questions and short answers (past tense):

- Did you use to take art classes? — Yes, I did.
 - (question about past habit using Did + use to)
- Was there a chess club at your school? — No, there wasn't.
 - (yes/no question about existence with Was/Were + there)
- Were there any clubs you liked?
 - (question about plural existence using any)

How to choose which structure to use (quick guide):

- Use “used to” for past states or habits (positive, negative, questions use did + use to).
- Use would for repeated past actions in stories (not for states).
- Use there was / there were to say something existed or was located somewhere in the past.

Excercises



1. Affirmative to interrogative (used to):

- Prompt: She used to love Art.
- Question: Did she use to love Art?

2. Affirmative to interrogative (there was/were):

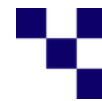
- Prompt: There were new computers in the lab.
- Question: Were there new computers in the lab?

3. Would (actions only):

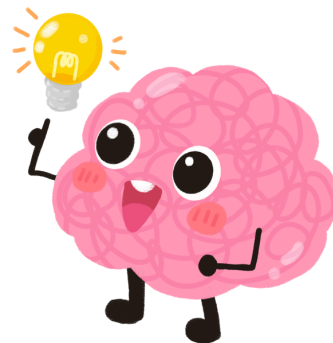
- Prompt: We would practice Music after lunch.
- Question (use past simple or used to): Did you use to practice Music after lunch?

4. Report: Write 4-5 sentences comparing your past habits with a friend or relative.

Wrap Up



- Use “used to” and “would” to talk about past habits
 - Used to = past habits or states: “I used to like History.”
 - Would = repeated actions: “We would practise songs every Friday.”
 - Remember: don’t use would for feelings or situations.
- Use “there was / there were” to describe past places and things
 - “There was a music room.”
 - “There were three computers in the lab.”
 - Practice with lists and classroom items!
- Ask and answer questions in the past tense
 - “Did you use to enjoy Science?”
 - “Was there a library in your old school?”
 - Use short answers: “Yes, I did.” / “No, there wasn’t.”
- Practice transforming sentences: Change positive sentences into questions and negatives:
 - “She used to play the piano.” → “Did she use to play the piano?”
 - “There were books.” → “Were there books?”
- Talk about your old school life: Use all the grammar and vocabulary to describe your past:
 - What subjects did you use to enjoy?
 - Were there any clubs or special rooms?





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