

Usually and used to

# Present habits and states

➤ for present habits use *usually* or *normally* + present simple.

I **usually get up** at 8:00 on school days.

I don't **usually go out** during the week.

**Do you usually walk** to work?

# Past habits and states

➤ For past habits use *used to / didn't use to* + infinitive. *Used to* DOES NOT exist in the present tense.

➤ We use *used to* for things that were true over a period of time in the past. It usually refers to something which is not true now.

I *used to* smoke. = I smoked for a period of time in the past but now I don't.

➤ *Used to / didn't use to* can be used with action verbs and non- action verbs.

We **used to** be close friends but we don't see each other any more.

I **used to** go out with that girl when I was at university.

**Did you use to** wear glasses?

She **didn't use to** have fair hair. She had dark hair before.

Complete the sentences with *used to / didn't use to / Did ... use to*, or the present simple + *usually*.

- 1 I \_\_\_\_\_ (not / like) Cathy much, but now we get on really well.
- 2 I \_\_\_\_\_ (go) to the cinema on Mondays, as it is cheaper on that day.
- 3 I \_\_\_\_\_ (be) a sales manager, but then I trained to be a designer.
- 4 When we were children, we often \_\_\_\_\_ (go) swimming in the sea.
- 5 \_\_\_\_\_ (you / work) in the Union Street office before you came here?
- 6 Jumila \_\_\_\_\_ (not / be) so quiet. She must be tired today.

# Read the article and tick (✓) A, B, or C.

**We met thanks to sport**

**Marjorie**

Many years ago I used to play tennis with a man called Roger. He usually beat me but I remember how kind he was. We lost touch when I got married and I thought I'd never see him again. That was 30 years ago. When I retired last year, I needed a new activity, especially as I had also recently got divorced, so I took up golf. One day I was going around the course alone, when I saw a man, also playing on his own. When he turned round, I realized it was my old friend! We couldn't believe it! After that we started playing regularly. Yesterday, Roger proposed in the middle of the golf course – he'd put a ring inside a golf ball! I couldn't believe it when I saw the ring, but I said 'yes'!

**Paul**

I was looking for a flatmate a few months ago because I had just split up with my partner and she had moved out. To forget her, I started working out at the gym after work. I slowly got to know Steve who was often there at the same time, although we didn't become friends until we were both warming up one day, and he said he was looking for somewhere to live as his girlfriend had just dumped him. I told him that I had a room in my flat and that I was looking for a flatmate. He moved in two days later. We've become good mates and we both agree that we're much easier to live with than our ex-girlfriends!

## **Liz**

I had recently moved to Oxford from Bristol when I decided to run the London Marathon. I didn't want to train alone so I advertised for a running partner at my local gym, and Harriet got in touch. We met for coffee and got on really well. It was amazing how many things we had in common, for example she had recently moved to Oxford, too. While we were getting fit we also became close friends.

Unfortunately I got injured three weeks before the race and couldn't take part. I was sad about the race, but am delighted about my new friendship. And we're already thinking about next year.

- 1 Marjorie stayed in touch with Roger after she got married.  
A True B False C Doesn't say
- 2 Marjorie was playing golf when she met Roger again.  
A True B False C Doesn't say
- 3 Marjorie and Roger have got engaged.  
A True B False C Doesn't say
- 4 Steve needed somewhere to live after his girlfriend broke up with him.  
A True B False C Doesn't say
- 5 Paul doesn't really get on with Steve.  
A True B False C Doesn't say

6 Liz decided to run the London Marathon after she'd moved from Bristol.

A True B False C Doesn't say

7 Liz wanted someone to train with.

A True B False C Doesn't say

8 Harriet wasn't the first person who made contact with Liz.

A True B False C Doesn't say 9 Harriet and Liz didn't like each other when they first met.

A True B False C Doesn't say

10 Harriet still ran the race after Liz hurt her leg.

A True B False C Doesn't say



Write *M* for Marjorie, *P* for Paul or *L* for Liz.

- 1 The person I met had also recently moved to the city. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 I started a new sport after I got divorced. \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 I usually go to the gym in the evenings. \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 I got injured while I was running. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 I share a flat with one person. \_\_\_\_\_