

Past simple, past continuous and past perfect; used to and would, be used to

1 Join the two sentences using the words given and put the verbs in the correct tense.

- I felt nervous. I never travelled by plane before. (because)
- We read a few travel books. We decided to visit Patagonia. (before)
- The area was very clean. Some responsible residents cleaned up all the rubbish. (after)
- I managed to talk to the local people. I learnt a few words before the trip. (because)
- I never thought that travelling could harm the environment. I read that story in the paper. (before)
- I got on the train. I asked the conductor if that was the train to Oxford. (after)

2 Complete with the past simple, past perfect or past continuous form of these verbs. There are four extra verbs.

be (x3) • come • cry • die • feel • get • have (x2) • seem • sleep • stay • take • travel • get lost • want

- 'What your hotel like?'
'Oh it amazing – I (never) in a five-star hotel before.'
- '..... (you) a good night's sleep?'
'Yes, I slept very well. I (still) when everybody else breakfast.'
- 'Why (you) the train? It's such a long journey from Paris to London.'
'I know, but I to go through the Eurotunnel.'
- '..... Tom excited about his trip to Mexico?'
'Of course. He as if a lifelong dream true.'
- 'Why (the kids)?'
'Because they (lost) in the safari park.'

3 Rewrite these sentences using *be used to*, *used to* or *would*.

- We often go on backpacking holidays so it's easy to remember what to pack.
.....
- I remember this place being totally uncontaminated.
.....
- Marie enjoyed scuba diving when she was younger.
.....
- My parents were in the habit of planning their holidays very carefully.
.....
- Mum finds it normal to speak Spanish every day because her mum is Spanish.
.....

4 Find and correct the mistakes. There are three incorrect sentences.

- She loves travelling and she uses to get away whenever she can.
- It was eight o'clock but the bus hadn't come yet.
- The teacher was explaining something to me when the bell went off.
- He was wide awake all night because he was not used to sleep in a tent.
- I remember one exciting day when I stayed in Germany.
- When we were camping, we would have breakfast outdoors.

5 Choose the best answers to complete the text.

Once the fear of flying (1) to stop many people from getting on a plane. But then airline companies started to offer Fearless Flyer courses and travelling has never been easier. We can read lots of success stories of people who said they would never (2) on a plane, but then, after a ground session with a pilot, haven't stopped flying since. One of these stories reads as follows: 'I've always loved travelling, and this fear (3) to ruin my holidays as well as my friendships. Normally, my friends (4) and I (5) a train, or more than one. Once it took me two days to join my friends, and they weren't happy at all. Then I (6) about the Fearless Flyer course. I must confess that when I booked I thought I (7) my money, but I was wrong. The pilot and the flight assistant were amazing – they explained to us how to control our fear, how a plane flies, and then answered all our questions. My flight was the next day. I was a bit nervous, but the flight assistant was always telling us exactly what (8) at each moment. Then I did the relaxation techniques they (9) us the day before, and by the time the plane (10), all my fears had gone.'

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|-------------------|------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| 1 A would | B was used | C use to | D used |
| 2 A used to be | B use to be | C be used to being | D used to being |
| 3 A used to start | B was starting | C started | D had started |
| 4 A would fly | B used to fly | C had flown | D A or B |
| 5 A was taking | B would take | C had taken | D have taken |
| 6 A heard | B had heard | C was hearing | D used to hear |
| 7 A wasted | B was wasting | C used to waste | D A or C |
| 8 A happened | B used to happen | C was happening | D had happened |
| 9 A taught | B used to teach | C were teaching | D had taught |
| 10 A had took off | B would take off | C used to take off | D took off |