VII

Used to/Be Used/Get Used to

The phrases "**used to**," "**be used to**," and "**get used to**" are used in English to express different concepts related to habits and acclimatization, but they can often cause confusion due to their similar structures. Here's a detailed explanation of each:

Used to

"Used to" expresses habits or situations that were true in the past but are no longer the case. It is used to talk about past habits or repeated actions, as well as past states or situations.

Structure: used to + base form of the verb

Example:

- I used to live in New York. (Now I live elsewhere.)

Be used to

"Be used to" indicates that someone is accustomed to something or finds something familiar. It is used to talk about things that are no longer strange or new to us, or situations we have adapted to.

Structure: be (am, is, are, was, were) used to + noun/gerund (-ing form)

Example:

- I am used to the cold weather here. (The cold weather is not strange or new to me.)

Get used to

"Get used to" refers to the process of becoming accustomed or adapted to a new situation, condition, or environment. It is about the change from not being accustomed to becoming accustomed.

Structure: get (gets, got, getting) used to + noun/gerund (-ing form)

Example:

- She is getting used to waking up early for her new job. (She is in the process of adapting to waking up early.)

Key Differences and Uses

Used to is only for past habits or situations and is always followed by the infinitive form of the verb. It is not used for present or future situations.
Be used to implies that the adaptation or familiarity has already occurred. It is a state of being accustomed to something and can be used in any tense, depending on the form of the verb "be."
Get used to describes the transition from not being accustomed to becoming accustomed. It focuses on the process of adaptation and can be used in different tenses to indicate the timing of this adaptation.

Examples in Sentences

Used to: I used to smoke, but I quit last year. (Past habit that has stopped)
Be used to: He's used to living alone. (Current state of being accustomed)
Get used to: You will get used to the new software soon. (Process of becoming accustomed)

Understanding these differences helps to use each phrase accurately in context, reflecting past habits, current states of adaptation, or the process of becoming accustomed to new situations.

Used to/Be Used/Get Used to Exercise 1:

Choose the correct answer.

1.I _____ play the guitar when I was younger.
a) used to
b) am used to
c) get used to

2. She _____ the noise in the city now.
a) used to
b) is used to
c) gets used to

3. He's _____ early mornings since he started his new job.
a) used to
b) be used to
c) gotten used to

4. They _____ go to the beach every summer.
a) used to
b) are used to
c) were getting used to

5. You will _____ the cold weather in Canada eventually.
a) used to
b) be used to
c) get used to

6. She _____ drink a lot of coffee every day in her previous job.
a) used to
b) has used to
c) is getting used to

7. You _____ such spicy food when you lived in Thailand.
a) used to eating
b) are used to eating
c) got used to eating

8. I _____ very early hours at my old job.
a) am used to working
b) used to working
c) used to work

9. Are they _____ their new teacher?
a) used to have
b) getting used to
c) used to liking

10. They _____ much warmer weather in their home country.
a) are used to
b) were used to
c) used to

Used to/Be Used/Get Used toExercise 2:

Complete the sentences with the correct form of used, be used to or get used to.

1. I _____ **(be)** around dogs, so I'm not afraid of them.

2. We _____ **(get)** the noise of living near the airport.

3. They _____ **have** a dog when they were kids.

4. I _____ **(play)** the piano well, but I haven't practiced in years.

5. He will _____ **(get)** working night shifts eventually.

6. She _____ **(be)** a vegetarian, but now she eats meat occasionally.

7. You'll _____ **(get)** the new software after a few weeks of use.

8. We _____ **(go)** camping every summer during our childhood.

9. He _____ **(get)** up at 5 AM for his previous job.

10. He _____ **(not smoke)**, but he does now.



Used to, be used to and get used to: answer key

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Where two or more answers are given, any of them is correct.

Exercise 1

1. a) used to
2. b) is used to
3. c) gotten used to
4. a) used to
5. c) get used to
6. a) used to
7. c) got used to eating
8. c) used to work
9. b) getting used to
10. b) were used to

Exercise 2

1. am used to being
2. are getting used to / have got used to / have gotten used to
3. used to
4. used to play
5. get used to
6. used to be
7. get used to
8. used to go / would go
9. used to get / would get
10. didn't use to smoke / used not to smoke