

Used to

1 Tick the sentences that describe routines. Choose the time expressions that show regularity.

- ☒ 1 Alastair played computer games every evening before bed.
- ☐ 2 Karen bought a new laptop last weekend.
- ☐ 3 Patricia and Matt called each other every Friday night.
- ☐ 4 Dean always watched football on Saturday afternoons.
- ☐ 5 Mary dropped her mobile phone down the toilet.

SHOW WHAT YOU KNOW

2 When they went to university, two friends, Carl and Owen, moved into a student flat together. Write sentences about them with *used to* or *didn't use to* and the verbs in brackets.

When they lived with their parents ...

... they didn't use to eat (eat) unhealthy food. Now they only eat kebabs and pizzas.

1 ... they (do) any cleaning at home. They still don't do much and their flat is a mess.

2 ... their parents (pay) the bills. Now they pay their own bills.

3 ... Carl (use) his dad's computer. Now he uses Owen's.

4 ... Carl and Owen (argue). Now they argue about the computer.

3 Write positive sentences (+), negative sentences (-) and questions (?) about mobile phones in 1983. Use the correct forms of *used to* from the box and the words above each line.

- 1 mobile phones / have cameras (?) Did mobile phones use to have cameras?
- 2 most normal people / own a mobile phone (-)
- 3 people / make fewer phone calls (+)
- 4 mobile phones / be bigger (?)
- 5 mobile phones / have touch screens (-)
- 6 mobile phones / send text messages (?)



1983

today

5 Complete the dialogue between Jodie and her dad with the correct forms of *used to* and the verbs in brackets.

J: Dad, <sup>1</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (use) a laptop when you were my age?  
D: What? No! I didn't. I was 14 in ... er ... wait a minute ... in 1981. We <sup>2</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (have) laptops back then.  
J: So, how <sup>3</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (check) your messages?  
D: Jodie?! There were no messages or texts; no Facebook or anything. We <sup>4</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (send) letters or faxes.  
J: I see. Wow ... Dad, what's a fax?  
D: Er ... well ... it was a bit like a photocopier. You <sup>5</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (write) your message on a piece of paper then put it in the fax machine ...  
J: And then?  
D: Well, then you <sup>6</sup> \_\_\_\_\_ (dial) the number and wait. The machine er ... well ... it read the piece of paper and sent it to your friend.  
J: What, the piece of paper?  
D: What? No! Not the same piece of paper, Jodie – just the message.  
J: I see. Wow.

SHOW WHAT YOU'VE LEARNT

- ☒ 1 a We met every Thursday at 4 p.m.
- ☐ b We used to meet every Thursday at 4 p.m.
- ☐ 2 a We watched videos about great discoveries.
- ☐ b We used to watch videos about great discoveries.
- ☐ 3 a One week, a physicist came to speak to us.
- ☐ b One week, a physicist used to come to speak to us.
- ☐ 4 a Our group went on a trip to the Science Museum in London.
- ☐ b Our group used to go on a trip to the Science Museum in London.
- ☐ 5 a My friend Emma once gave a talk about the sun.
- ☐ b My friend Emma once used to give a talk about the sun.

4 Write the correct sentences. Sometimes both sentences are correct.