Things we used to believe

En este episodio, el Profesor Wordsworth, Jessica y Jimi recuerdan las cosas extrañas que creían de niños. Esta guía te ayuda a repasar la **gramática**, el **vocabulario** y las **expresiones británicas** del episodio, con ejercicios y respuestas al final.

Professor Wordsworth
Profesor británico, té y galletas, muy educado y un poco despistado.

Jessica
16 años, curiosa y graciosa. Hace las preguntas que tú harías.

Jimi
17 años, humor seco. Le encantan las expresiones británicas del profesor.

1. Used to: hábitos y estados del pasado

used to + verbo

Algo que hacías o creías **antes** y que **ya no** haces o crees.

- *I used to believe televisions could see us.*
- *My dad used to drive faster.*
- *It used to be very shy. (el cactus del Sr. Darwin)*

Las tres formas

Afirmativa	*I **used to** think...*
Negativa	*I **didn't use to** think...*
Pregunta	***Did** you **use to** think...?*

Con **did / didn't** se escribe **use to** (sin -d).

⚠️ **Trampa:** en afirmativa no digas *"I use to believe"* para el pasado. Es **I used to believe**. Y no lo confundas con **be used to** (estar acostumbrado): *"I'm not used to all this new technology"* = No estoy acostumbrado a toda esta tecnología nueva.

2. Would: costumbres del pasado (solo acciones)

✅ would + acción repetida

- *I would look out of the window and say, "Goodnight, moon."*
- *She would stand at the door with her arms crossed.*
- *We would sit very still on the sofa.*

❌ would + estado

Con verbos de estado (*be, have, live, believe, think, like, know*) usa **used to**:

✅ *I used to live in Cuenca.*
❌ *I would live in Cuenca.*
✅ *I used to believe in tiny people.*

3. Adverbios de frecuencia

Adverbio	Significado	Ejemplo del episodio
always	siempre	*So we always walked very slowly.*
usually	normalmente	*We usually ate dinner at six o'clock.*
often	a menudo	*We often wanted things more than we needed them.*
sometimes	a veces	*I sometimes bought useless things.*
never	nunca	*We never spoke with our mouths full.*

Van **antes del verbo principal** (*we always walked*) pero **después de *be*** (*she is always late*).

4. Vocabulario del episodio

Inglés	Español	En el episodio
tiny	diminuto, chiquitito	*Tiny people lived inside the telephone.*
well-mannered	educado, de buenos modales	*My grandmother thought I was very well-mannered.*
staff	personal, empleados	*She didn't know I was talking to the staff.*
shocked	impactado, en shock	*When I saw my teacher in the supermarket, I was shocked.*
corridor	pasillo	*If you ran in the corridor...*
headmaster	director (de colegio)	*Terrance Darwin, headmaster.*
out of nowhere	de la nada	*The headmaster would appear immediately. Out of nowhere.*
terrifying	aterrador	*We used to believe many terrifying things about school.*
forbidden	prohibido	*Every time I touched something forbidden.*
a confession	una confesión	*Professor, I have a confession.*
vacuum cleaner	aspiradora	*Once I cried for a vacuum cleaner.*
pocket money	dinero de bolsillo, mesada	*I would save my pocket money very carefully.*
useless	inútil	*I sometimes bought useless things.*
a hoop	un aro	*We used to play outside with a stick and a hoop.*
creepy	espeluznante, que da miedito	*That's creepy.*
weather forecast	pronóstico del tiempo	*Especially the weather forecast.*
bills	cuentas, facturas	*You have no bills, no meetings...*
a reward	una recompensa	*Watching you grow is an enormous reward.*
nephew	sobrino	*My nephew Oliver is a journalist.*
a sea lion	un lobo marino	*A sea lion used to sleep on this boat.*
a nap	una siesta	*The siesta, an afternoon nap.*

5. Expresiones británicas del Profesor

Expresión	Significado	Nota
Goodness!	¡Dios mío! ¡Caramba!	Sorpresa, muy educado.
Indeed.	Efectivamente. Así es.	Formal, típico de un profesor.
Precisely.	Exactamente.	*"Like magic?" "Precisely."*
biscuits vs cookies	galletas	Británico: **biscuits** · Americano: **cookies**.
Speaking of whom...	Hablando de él/ella...	Para cambiar de tema hacia una persona.
forty winks	una siestita	*Forty winks should do the trick.*
to do the trick	funcionar, servir	Resolver algo.
to toddle along	irse tranquilamente	*Let's toddle along.* = Vámonos yendo.
Keep up the good work.	Sigue así.	Para felicitar a alguien.

6. Ejercicios

A. ¿Verdadero (T) o falso (F)?

1. **T / F** The Professor used to talk politely into the telephone.
2. **T / F** Jessica used to think the sun followed her car.
3. **T / F** Jimi was shocked to see his teacher buying bananas.
4. **T / F** Mrs Pemberton used to blink a lot.
5. **T / F** Jimi once cried for a red vacuum cleaner.
6. **T / F** Oliver's camera is under a sea lion.

B. Completa con *used to, didn't use to* o *Did ... use to*

1. When I was a child, I _____ believe the moon followed our car.
2. _____ you _____ play outside with your friends?
3. My parents _____ have a computer. They bought one in 2010.
4. We _____ live in Cuenca, but now we live in Quito.
5. I _____ like vegetables, but now I love them.
6. The cactus _____ be very shy.

C. ¿Correcta o incorrecta? Corrige las incorrectas

1. I would live in a small town when I was a child.
2. My grandmother would tell us stories every night.
3. I use to believe in tiny people when I was little.
4. Did you used to watch cartoons?
5. We always walked very slowly in the corridor.

D. Tu turno ✍️

Escribe tres cosas que creías de niño. Empieza con ***When I was little, I used to believe...*** y compártelas en los comentarios de YouTube. ¡El Profesor las lee!

Quick test: ¿Es una **acción repetida**? → **used to** o **would**. ¿Es un **estado** (be, have, live, believe)? → solo **used to**.

Respuestas. A: 1 T · 2 F (the moon) · 3 T · 4 F (she never blinked) · 5 T · 6 T. **B:** 1 used to · 2 Did ... use to · 3 didn't use to · 4 used to · 5 didn't use to · 6 used to. **C:** 1 ✗ → I *used to* live in a small town (estado) · 2 ✓ · 3 ✗ → I *used to* believe · 4 ✗ → Did you *use to* watch...? · 5 ✓.