Guessing game: used to
by Jill Hadfield

Level: Intermediate
Target age: Secondary / adult
Time needed: 20 minutes
Grammar objective: To practise used to in affirmative and negative sentences and questions
Materials: One worksheet for each student
Summary: An accuracy-based guessing activity for pairs of students to practise I used to …, Did you use to …? and I didn’t use to …

Procedure

1. Give each student a worksheet and put them in pairs.
2. Ask each pair to sit back-to-back or in a position where they cannot see what the other is writing.
3. Explain to the students that you want them to complete the worksheet as if they were their partner, guessing what their partner would write in each case.
4. When they have finished, they should ask questions to find out whether what they have written about each other is true, e.g.:
   Alicia: Miyuki, did you use to enjoy swimming?
   Miyuki: Yes! I used to go every Sunday!
5. When the students have finished asking and answering the questions, ask a few students to tell you the most interesting or funny thing they found out about their partner.
When I was a child ...

... I used to enjoy _________________________.

... I used to be afraid of _________________________.

... I used to like eating _________________________.

... I used to hate eating _________________________.

... I used to have a _________________________.

... I used to play with _________________________.

... I used to _________________________ at weekends.

... I used to _________________________ before going to bed.

... I used to _________________________ in the holidays.

... I used to _________________________ on my birthday.