

## 5K – Preview Answers

### You choose

Fill in the blanks using *could* or *used to* with one of the verbs below.

*understand    play    go    live    think    know    travel    practice    study*

1. I *used to walk* to school every day when I was a child.
2. When I was a teenager I *could play* basketball really well.
3. I *used to live* in a small village in the countryside.
4. My parents said I *could go* anywhere I wanted for my birthday.
5. I *used to practice* the violin every day after school.
6. I *could* never *understand* calculus when I was in high school.
7. I *used to know* the neighbours, but now we have new ones.
8. Martin *used to travel* a lot, but now he stays in the same city all year round.
9. Jessica *used to study* Chinese, but now she is too busy.
10. My mum *could* always *think* of something interesting to talk about.

### Try this

Read the story about Bob below and fill in the gaps using *could*, *used to*, *would*, or *used to be able to*.

Bob is retired now, but he *used to be* a builder. He *would/used to* get up very early every day and drive to the job site. He *used to be able to/could* drive very well when he was younger, but now he can't because his eyesight is poor. Bob always *used to* be the first person to arrive at work. He *could/used to be able to* work all day with only a short break for lunch. Now he doesn't have as much energy and needs to take things slower. Bob *used to* build large apartment buildings. He was very clever and *could* always understand the building plans. He *used to/would* go over them with his assistants and then give them all instructions. He *would/used to* be very organised. Although Bob *used to be able to* work all day, now he rests for most of the day. He *used to* be very happy at his job, and now he is very happy being retired.

### How about you?      *Answers will vary.*

*What did you used to do in the summer when you were a kid? Think of three things.*

*When I was a little girl I used to go swimming in the sea in the summer holidays. We lived very close to the beach at that time. I used to play in the water with my friends all day long. I used to get very tanned!*

*What did your parents used to do when they were younger?*

*Now my parents are retired, but when they were younger my mother used to be a magician, and my father was her assistant. She used to do a trick where he would climb into a box and she would appear to saw him in half.*

*What did people in your country used to do 200 years ago that they don't do now?*

*200 years ago the majority of Japanese people used to avoid eating meat and using leather. They also used to practice a four-tier caste system consisting of farmers, warriors, artisans and merchants, with an additional caste of untouchables, a priesthood, a nobility and the imperial family.*