

Would - Past Tense

Point 1: Use the modal **would** to talk about activities you often did in the past, but no longer do.

(Q) As a kid on the farm, what **did** you do?

(A) I did a lot. I **would** ride horses.

(N) I **wouldn't** stay inside.

(Q) Where **would** you play?

(A) I **would** play in the garden.

(N) I **wouldn't** see anyone.

Point 2: Use “**would**” for things you did often. Use the simple past for actions you just did once.

(Q) Who **did** you talk to as a kid?

(A) I talked with my friends.

(A) We **would** talk for hours.

(N) I **wouldn't** say much.

Point 3: We use 'd as a contraction for would in spoken English.

(Q) When **would** you get up?

(A) I'd wake up very early.

(N) I'd never sleep in.

Note: Do not use the contraction in short answers.

(Q) **Would** you go to town?

(A) Yes, I **would** sometimes.

(N) No, **wouldn't** usually.

Point 4: We use **used to** to introduce an action we no longer do, and then switch to **would** for related actions.

I **used to** play soccer a lot. I **would** play from morning till night.

I **used to** get in trouble a lot. I **would** make my teacher so mad.

I **used to** have a motorcycle. I **would** ride it for hours.

Would for Past Tense

Read and listen to four conversations using the grammar.

Conversation 1 | [Free PDF Worksheet](#)

Man: What was it like growing up on a farm?

Woman: It was the best. I used to have so much fun.

Man : Really? What **would** you do?

Woman: I **would** ride horses, play with my dog, tend to animals and just have fun!

Man: Sounds fun!

Woman: It was. Every day I **would** get up early and I **would** be outside all day. I **wouldn't** go inside until dark.

Man: Sounds like you had a great childhood.

Woman: It was.

Conversation 2 | [Free PDF Worksheet](#)

Woman: What was it like growing up in the city?

Man: It was fun. I have many good memories.

Woman: Yeah, such as?

Man: Well, my friends and I used to hang out downtown. We **would** sit on the sidewalk and watch the world go by. It was so fun. Sometimes, we **d** get in trouble, though.

Woman: Really, what **would** you do?

Man: Well, we **would** be loud or naughty. Kids' stuff. Nothing serious, though.

Woman: Yeah, sounds familiar.

Conversation 3 | [Free PDF Worksheet](#)

Man: What was life like in the army?

Woman: It was good, but it was very hard.

Man: Really? How so?

Woman: Well, we were always busy. Every day we **would** get up really early. Then, we **would** march for ten miles. After that, we **would** do more training.

Man: What **would** you do in the afternoon?

Woman: More training. Usually, we **wouldn't** stop training until late.

Man: That is so tough. How much sleep did you get?

Woman: Not much. We **would** usually get about six hours a night. It wasn't enough, though.

Man: Do you miss it?

Woman: Yes, sometimes.

Quiz

Answer these questions about the interview.

1) On the farm she would _____ .

- a) ride horses
- b) get in trouble

2A) In the city he would _____ .

- a) waste money
- b) make a lot of noise**

2B) In the city he would _____ .

- a) people watch**
- b) stay out of trouble

3) In the army she would not _____ much.

- a) train
- b) sleep**

Gap Fill: Complete the conversation with the correct word!

Question 1 of 3

Drag the boxes onto the matching gaps.

- **growing**
- **best**
- **early**

- **childhood**
- **inside**
- **ride**

- **would**
- **tend**

Man: What was it like ___ up on a farm?

Woman: It was the ____. I used to have so much fun.

Man : Really? What ___ you do?

Woman: I would ___ horses, play with my dog, ___ to animals and just have fun!

Man: Sounds fun.

Woman: It was. Every day I would get up ____, and I would be outside all day. I wouldn't go ___ until dark.

Man: Sounds like you had a great ____.

Woman: It was.

Question 2 of 3

Drag the boxes onto the matching gaps.

- **city**
- **hang**
- **familiar**

- **world**
- **sidewalk**
- **naughty**

- **trouble**
- **memories**

Woman: What was it like growing up in the ___?

Man: It was fun. I have many good ___.

Woman: Yeah? Such as?

Man: Well, my friends and I used to ___ out downtown. We would sit on the ___ and watch the ___ go by. It was so fun. Sometimes, we'd get in ___ though.

Woman: Really. What would you do?

Man: Well, we would be loud or ____. Kids' stuff. Nothing serious though.

Woman: Yeah, sounds ___.

Question 3 of 3

Drag the boxes onto the matching gaps.

- Really
- army
- though

- stop
- tough
- training

- early
- very

Man: What was life like in the ___?

Woman: It was good, but it was ___ hard.

Man: ___? How so?

Woman: Well, we were always busy. Every day we would get up really ____. Then we would march for ten miles. After that we would do more ___.

Man: What would you do in the afternoon?

Woman: More training. Usually, we wouldn't ___ training until late.

Man: That is so ____. How much sleep did you get?

Woman: Not much. We would usually get about six hours a night. It wasn't enough ___.

Man: Do you miss it?

Woman: Yes, sometimes.

Corporate Vocabulary

To understand [Verb]



To know the meaning of something.

Ex: "After asking for the explanation a few times, I finally understand the concept."

To misunderstand [Verb]



To not understand something correctly.

Ex: “They misunderstood the movie plot and were confused.”

To agree [Verb]



To have the same opinion as another person.

Ex: “We both agree that this is the best restaurant in town.”

To disagree [Verb]



To have a different opinion about something.

Ex: “He disagreed with the decision but chose to remain silent.”

To accept [Verb]



To say yes to what is offered to you.

Ex: “They accepted the offer to stay at the beach house for the weekend.”

To reject [Verb]



To refuse to accept a proposal, idea, person, etc.

Ex: “They rejected our suggestion to change the design.”