

ENGLISH

# Unit 13: Use(d) to and Supppose(d) to



*Pre-Intermediate English with*

**THE INSPIRE ACADEMY**

# Introduction

- The phrases "use to", "used to", "suppose to", "supposed to", all can be very useful when having a conversation in English.
- However they can have very different meanings when used in different contexts.
- Also, between "use to" and "used to" they each have an entirely different meaning even though they have the same verb of "to use", although one is in the present tense and the other is in the past tense.
- In this unit we will be discussing the differences between each of these short phrases as well as their usefulness in conversation.
- Later, there will be multiple exercises to help you to really remember what you have learned and put it into practice.
- Let's get started!

# "Suppose to"

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- The English word suppose means that you think that something is true or probable even though you lack certainty or evidence.
- "Suppose to" however, means that there is something you must or should do, or, in other words, you need to do something.
- Examples:
  - a. "Do you think the Dodgers will win today?" "Well they seem to be better, so I suppose."
  - b. "Can you help clean the house today?" "I can't I am supposed to go help my friend with something."
- In example a we see the first definition of suppose. In example b we see the second definition.
- Example a means they think the Dodgers will win even though they have no evidence or certainty. Example means that they cannot help cleaning the house because they must help their friend with something.

# "Supposed to"



- Similar to the previous page on "Suppose to" the phrase "supposed to" means that something had to be done in the past.
- The difference here is between "supposed" and "supposed to"
- Examples:
  - a. "Did you truly think you would not get caught doing this crime?" "I supposed I would, yes."
  - b. "Do you have the documents?" "Well, I was supposed to take them from home, but I totally forgot."
- In example a we see the first definition of suppose. In example b we see the second definition.
- Example a means they thought they would get away with the crime even though they did not know with certainty. Example b means that they needed to bring the documents but they did not.

# "Use to"

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- The main verb in this phrase is the verb "to use" which means to consume or employ something as a means of doing something.
- However, the phrase "use to" means something entirely different. It means to become accustomed to something, or in French it means "Habitué".
- Examples:
  - a. "Hey Stacy, can I use your hairbrush?"
  - b. "Stacy, are you not cold in the water?"  
"No, I am use to it so I am no longer cold."
- In example a we see the first definition of use. In example b we see the second definition.
- Example a means that a friend of Stacy's wants to utilize her hairbrush. Example b means that Stacy has become accustomed to the water temperature she is in and so she is no longer cold.

# "Used to"



- The main verb in this phrase is also the verb "to use" but this time it is in the past tense.
- However, the phrase "used to" means something entirely different. It means that something was done in existed in the past but in the present it is done or exists differently.
- Examples:
  - a. "Hey Stacy, I used your hairbrush."
  - b. "Stacy, are you not cold in the water?" "I used to be when I first got in, but now I'm not."
- In example a we see the first definition of used. In example b we see the second definition.
- Example a means that a friend of Stacy's utilized her hairbrush in the past. Example b means that Stacy was cold when she first entered the water, but now she is no longer cold.



# AUDIO EXERCISE

Listening comprehension! Please choose the appropriate answers to the following questions:

1. What is Maryam "use to"?
  - a. Good weather
  - b. Long days
  - c. Short days
  - d. Bad weather
2. What did Vikki "used to" be?
  - a. A dancer
  - b. A singer
  - c. A musician
  - d. A waitress
3. How did Vikki say she needed to do something?
  - a. I need to do...
  - b. I'm suppose to do...
  - c. I'm supposed to do...
  - d. None of the above
4. What is Maryam "suppose to" do?
  - a. Clean her house
  - b. Send an email
  - c. Walk her dog
  - d. Call her grandmother



# FRIEND EXERCISE

For this friend exercise you and your friend each write 4 sentences.

There should be one of each of these:

1. A sentence saying something you need to do.
2. A sentence saying something you needed to do.
3. A sentence saying something you have become accustomed to.
4. A sentence saying something you did in the past but you do not do anymore.

After writing each sentence you and your friend must switch papers and rewrite each sentence using the phrases you learned in this unit.

Good luck, and get creative!

