

17 Those were the days

In this lesson: **Talk about when you were a child**

Grammar: **used to** for repeated actions and states in the past

Introduction

1 a Work with a partner. Look at the pictures and decide which show a successful life and which show a hard life.

Write **S** (successful life) or **H** (hard life) in the boxes.



1 steak for dinner S



2 limousine



3 lots of money



4 bread and water for dinner



5 no home



6 an old van



7 a castle



8 no money



9 a private jet

b Do you think you need money to be happy?

Listening

2 a Work with a partner.

Look at the picture of Bob Jones and discuss the questions below.

- 1 What do you think Bob does?
- 2 Do you think he is successful?

b CD - 32 Listen to Bob being interviewed on the radio and check your ideas.

3 CD - 32 Listen again. Write **T** (true) or **F** (false) next to the statements below.

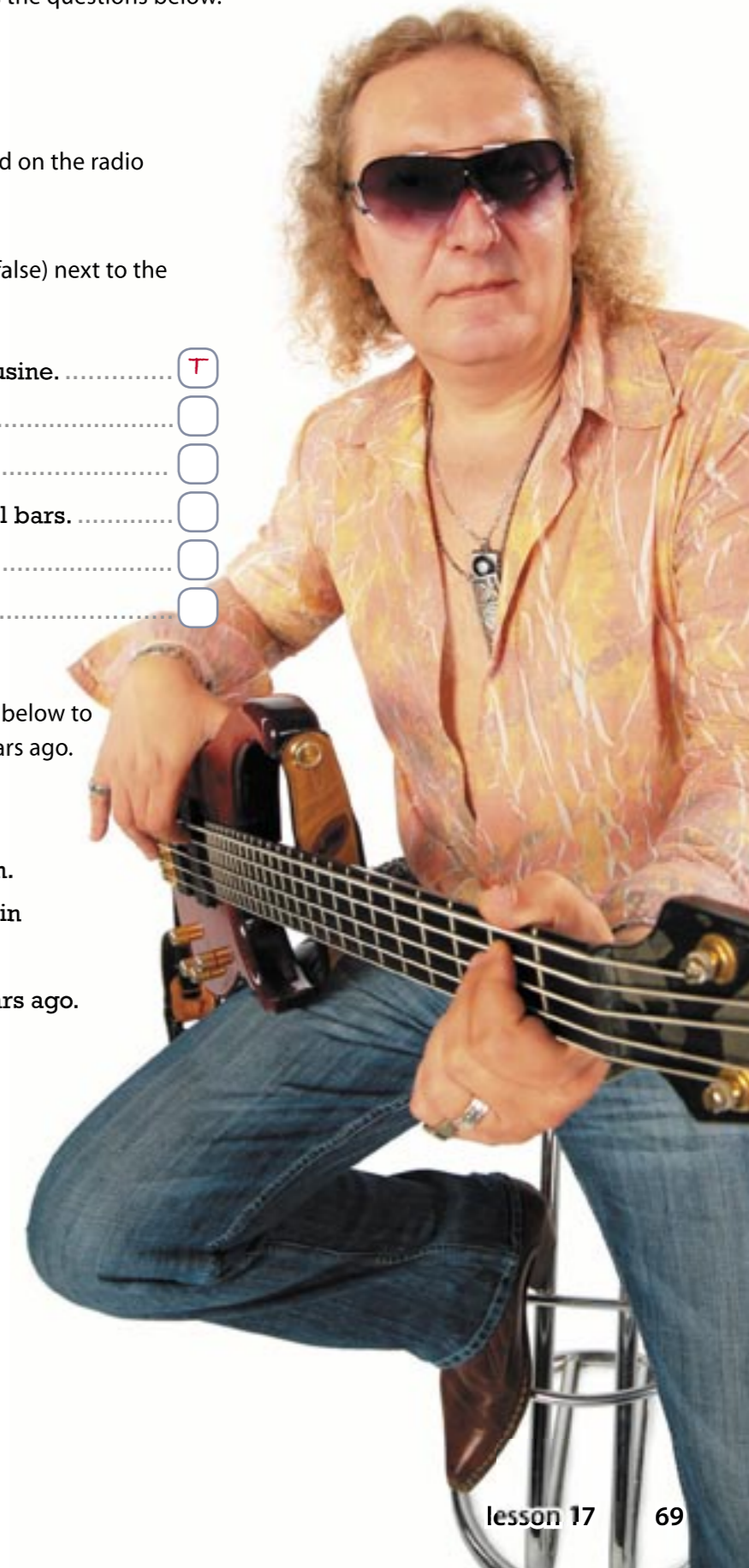
- a Today, Bob has a private jet and a limousine. T
- b Bob lived in a castle 30 years ago.
- c Bob drove an old van 30 years ago.
- d 30 years ago, Bob played music in small bars.
- e Life was easy for Bob 30 years ago.
- f Bob had lots of money 30 years ago.

4 a Write **used to** or **didn't use to** in the spaces below to complete what Bob says about his life 30 years ago.

- 1 I didn't use to live in a castle.
- 2 I _____ have an old van.
- 3 I _____ play my music in small bars and clubs.
- 4 Life _____ be hard 30 years ago.
- 5 I _____ have money.

b CD - 33 Listen and check.

5 Do you think Bob was happy 30 years ago?



Language focus

We can use **used to** when we talk about **repeated actions** in the past.

used to / didn't use to + base form of the verb

I **used to** work in France.
He **used to** drive an old van.
I **didn't use to** go to the gym.
She **didn't use to** smoke.

We can also use **used to** when we talk about **past states**.

He **used to** be happy.
I **didn't use to** have a car.

Questions and short answers

Where **did** you **use to** live?
Did you **use to** play tennis at school? Yes, I did. / No, I didn't.

Practice

6 a Work with a partner.

Read the things Bob says about his life 30 years ago.

Underline the sentence that cannot be rewritten with **used to / didn't use to**.

1 Life wasn't so easy.

Life didn't use to be so easy.

2 A friend gave me an old white van.

3 I drove that van all around this country.

4 I played anywhere that would give me a chance.

5 I worked hard.


6 I didn't worry.

7 I had fun.


b Rewrite the other sentences with **used to / didn't use to**.

c  CD - 34 Listen and check.

Sounding natural

7 a  CD - 35 Listen. Do the underlined parts of the sentences sound the same or different?

- 1 People used to play records, but they didn't use to play video games.
- 2 People used to write letters, but they didn't use to write emails.

b  CD - 35 Listen again and copy the pronunciation.

Time to talk

8 a Work on your own. Read the questions below and make a note of your answers.

1. *Where did you use to live when you were eleven?*
2. *Did you use to like doing sports at school?*
3. *What did you use to do on Sundays when you were 16?*
4. *Did you use to have a nickname when you were a child?*
5. *Did you use to play with dolls when you were young?*

6.

7.

8.

b Write three more questions about childhood with **used to**.

9 a Work with a partner. Ask and answer the questions from **activity 8**.

example - *Did you use to like doing sport at school?*
- *No, I didn't. I hated it, especially rugby. How about you?*

b Tell the class about your partner.

example *Tim used to hate doing sport at school...*

Homework - turn to page 101

