**Additional exercises**

**Voodoo Zombies**

**Charles Ferro**

**A. Background material**

1. Find out what you can about the place where John and his family live. Who is it named after and what was this person’s historical significance?

2. Find out something about voodoo and zombies and write a short description of both.

3. What is the Erie Canal and why was it built?

4. Can you find Green Lake on the Erie Canal?

5. Find out something about the history of New Orleans from the Internet.

Why is this part of the USA different in several ways from most other parts?

**B. The world of the supernatural**

Here are some supernatural creatures from a children’s picture book published in 1790. Do you recognize any of them?

Perhaps you are more at home with these:

GOBLIN PIXIE FAIRY BOGGART

VAMPIRE WEREWOLF ZOMBIE

IMP LEPRECHAUN ELF GNOME

DWARF DEMON DEVIL SPRITE

BROWNIE POLTERGEIST GHOST

TROLL

Check them out on the Internet, select the five that you find most interesting, and write a few lines about each](http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/a/a5/J.F.Bertuch-Fabelwesen2.JPG)

**C. Vocabulary and language structure**

You will find the answers to the questions posed here at the end of our Internet exercises.

1. **Infinitive with or without ‘to’?**

Put the following pairs of sentences together to make just one sentence. Decide whether you need an infinitive with or without ‘to’. Do not use any words between ‘forward slashes’ (= **/**xxx yy**/**)

Example:

I told him: “Be careful!” = I told him **to** be careful.

1. I heard him. He closed the door quietly.

2. She asked me: “Come with us.”

3. I warned him: “Don’t touch those herbs!”

4. He helped her. /She was/ doing her homework.

5. “Why won’t you let me? /I want/ to come with you!”

6. He saw her. She threw a stone at a policeman.

7. “/It was because/ he made me /that I/ jumped into the river.”

8. The policeman ordered him. “Put down your gun!”

9. She remembered. She bought a lottery ticket.

10. “I want you. Come with me.”

2. **Constructions with ‘would’**

a) ‘would’ to express habitual actions

These sentences are taken from Chapter 4 of the story:

The ambulances **would** bring them in. They **would** lie there for around an hour like they were dead and then they **would** just get out of bed and walk away.

This construction with ‘would’ is not a conditional tense. It expresses a habitual action in much the same way as ‘used to’ does. Sometimes – but not always – you can use this construction instead of ‘used to’. And remember that this ‘used’ is pronounced while the past tense of ‘to use’ is pronounced .

Use your ‘feeling’ for the language to decide whether you can replace ‘used to’ with ‘would’ in the following sentences:

1. My grandmother used to play hockey for England.

2. He used to walk to school every morning.

3. My German teacher used to live in Austria.

4. Did you use to play tennis after school?

5. I didn’t use to like fish and chips, but I do now.

6. There used to be a railway in our village, but it was closed many years ago.

7. On long winter evenings we used to sit in front of an open fire in the living-room.

8. We never used to use the bus service from our village to the nearest town.

Try to formulate a ‘rule’ before you check your answers. We will give you a few tips with the correct answers!

b) ‘would’ in ‘if’ sentences

The following sentence is a normal conditional (‘if’) sentence:

“**If** I **knew** where he lived I **would** **give** you his address.”

The above sentence could follow on from this sentence:

“I **don’t know** where he lives, so I **can’t give** you his address. But if …”

Make ‘if’ sentences to follow on from these situations. Make any changes that are necessary (especially to the words in **bold** type) but do not change the order of events:

1. “I haven’t got **much** money, so I can’t lend you **any**. But if …”

2. “She didn’t phone for an ambulance because she didn’t see the accident. She …”

3. “Hurry! We can still catch the early train. If we …”

4. “Will you give Jenny my message? Will you see her tomorrow?” – “I …”

5. “I don’t live in the country, so I don’t go for long walks. But if…”

6. “She went to London but she didn’t go for a ride on the London Eye. Now, if ***I*** …”

7. “He didn’t pass his examinations. He didn’t go to university. If …”

8. “I’ll help you. Don’t get angry with me. I …”

9. “We didn’t catch the train. We didn’t run fast enough. But we …”

10. “I’m unemployed now **because** I didn’t work hard at school! I …n’t …”

You know that it is not correct to use ‘would’ in the ‘if’ part of a conditional sentence. Yet the sentence: “**If** you **would** just take a seat, I’ll ask if the doctor can see you right away.” is not only correct but also polite. Do you know why?

c) ‘go’ + infinitive without ‘to’

Tom said to John: “Now **go have** your breakfast, and **go do** your ‘stuff’ ... and let me get some work done.”

The use of ‘go’ here is typical of American English. It is used to give the main verb more emphasis, rather like ‘do’: “I ***do*** think you should be more careful!”

In British English we would use ‘go and’ in such contexts: “Now **go and have** your breakfast, and **go and do** your ‘stuff’.”

This is just a grammar note – we won’t ask you to do an exercise on it, but look out for it when you are reading American texts.

**Answers**

**B. Vocabulary and language structure**

1. **Infinitive with or without ‘to’?**

1. I heard him **close** the door quietly.

2. She asked me **to come** with them.

3. I warned him **not to touch** those herbs.

4. He helped her **to do** her homework.

It is also correct to use the infinitive without ‘to’ with the verb ‘to help’:

He helped her **do** her homework.

5. “Why won’t you let me **come** with you?”

6. He saw her **throw** a stone at a policeman.

7. “He made me **jump** into the river.”

8. The policeman ordered him **to put** down his gun.

9. She remembered **to buy** a lottery ticket.

10. “I want you **to come** with me.”

2. **Constructions with ‘would’**

a) ‘would’ to express habitual actions

Only the following two of our eight sentences can use ‘would’ instead of ‘used to’:

2. He used to walk to school every morning.

= He **would walk** to school every morning.

7. On long winter evenings we used to sit in front of an open fire in the living-room. = On long winter evenings we **would sit** in front of an open fire in the living-room.

We only use ‘would’ when we know that a number of, regularly repeated, habitual actions took place.

In these sentences, the auxiliary verb ‘would’ is not stressed as heavily as the full verb.

This construction is also used to express annoyance at habits that often have negative consequences. But in these cases, the auxiliary verb ‘would’ is heavily stressed:

“He ***would*** walk across the field with the bull in it! Now he’s in hospital!”

We cannot use ‘would’ with statements about the past which concentrate on a ‘state’ or ‘situation’ rather than on the number of times something is done, as in the sentences:

1. My grandmother **used to** play hockey for England. (= at some past period)

3. My German teacher **used to** live in Austria. (= for a longish time in the past)

6. There **used to** be a railway in our village, but it was closed many years ago. (in this case ‘There used to be’ means no more than ‘There was once’)

We cannot use ‘would’ instead of ‘used to’ in questions or negations:

4. Did you use(d) to play tennis after school?

The sentence “Would you play tennis after school?” is a request to do something in the future.

5. I didn’t use(d) to like fish and chips, but I do now.

“I wouldn’t like fish and chips” refers to a dislike of the food. In combination with “but I do now” it would make no sense at all!

In spoken questions and negations, people often tend to say ‘used’ instead of using the more correct infinitive form (‘use’). In any case, the past tense ‘used’  is the only form of this verb which is used .

We cannot use ‘would’ instead of ‘used to’ if there would be the possibility of confusion with the conditional verb or the ‘would’ in an ‘if’ sentence:

8. We never **used to** use the bus service from our village to the nearest town.

In the above sentence, the person speaking

**either** now uses a bus service which he or she never used in the past,

**or** cannot use the bus service because it no longer runs.

The sentence: “We **would** never use the bus service from our village to the nearest town.” expresses dislike and means that there ***is*** a bus service but for some reason (too expensive, too slow, too uncomfortable) the person speaking never uses it.

Remember the correct pronunciation! “We never used to use …”

b) ‘would’ in ‘if’ sentences

1. “I haven’t got much money, so I can’t lend you any.

But if I **had** more money, I **could / would lend** you some.”

2. “She didn’t phone for an ambulance because she didn’t see the accident.

She **would have phoned** for an ambulance if she **had seen** the accident.”

3. “Hurry! We can still catch the early train.

If we **hurry**, we **can** still **catch** / we’**ll** still **be able** **to** **catch** the early train.”

4. “Will you give Jenny my message? Will you see her tomorrow?” –

“I’**ll give** Jenny your message if I **see** her tomorrow.”

5. “I don’t live in the country, so I don’t go for long walks.

But if I **lived** in the country, I **would** **go** / I’**d go** for long walks.”

6. “She went to London but she didn’t go for a ride on the London Eye.

Now, if ***I*** **went** to London, I **would go** for a ride on it!”

7. “He didn’t pass his examinations, so he didn’t go to university.

If he **had passed** his examinations, he **would have gone** to university.”

8. “Help you? OK, but don’t get angry with me.

I’**ll help** you if you **don’t get** angry with me.”

9. “We didn’t catch the train. We didn’t run fast enough.

But we **would have caught** the train if we **had run** fast enough.”

10. “I’m unemployed now because I didn’t work hard at school!

I **wouldn’t be** unemployed now if I **had worked** hard at school.”

You may use ‘would’ in the ‘if’ part of a sentence to express politeness. Such sentences are not real conditional sentences, and the ‘if … would’ part can be replaced by a simple ‘Please … and …’

So:

“**If** you **would** just take a seat, I’ll ask if the doctor can see you right away.”

= “**Please** just take a seat **and** I’ll ask if the doctor can see you right away.”

There is no ‘condition’ here. This is a simple request from a nurse to a patient. The patient is not going to threaten the nurse with the question: “What will you do if I ***don’t*** take a seat?”