

to allow                      to be allowed                      to be permitted

To **allow** someone to do something means that you give them permission to do it. (To **allow** someone **to do** something means the same as to **let** someone **do** something.)

- a) The doctors allowed me to get out of bed two or three times a day and walk to the end of the hallway and back.
- b) Why did you allow the boys to go to the park alone? You know I think they are still too young.

We can also use **allow** + **noun**.

- a) For safety reasons we do not allow children under the age of 12 in the sauna.

We often use the *impersonal you* with **allowed**: “You aren’t allowed to”.

- b) You are not allowed to park in this street.
- c) What’s Katie doing? Doesn’t she know you aren’t allowed to take pictures in here?

**Allow** is also often used in the *passive for rules*:

- d) Members of the sports club are allowed to invite two guests each week.
- e) Barbecues are not allowed on the beach.

We also use the word **allow** when we talk about the time we need when we plan a journey, or the quantity of something we need when we do a job.

- a) You need to allow at least 45 minutes for check-in and passport control.
- b) Normally allow around 25 grams of sugar for every 100 grams of fruit.

*Who do you allow to check your e-mails?*

*What sort of things do your teachers not allow you to do in class?*

*How much luggage are you allowed to take when you fly?*

4) **was / were going to do** for plans and intentions

We can also use **to be going to** for plans or intentions that we *had*.

You say “I **was going to do** something” when you are talking *now* about something you wanted to do but you didn’t do (or you haven’t done yet); maybe because you didn’t have time, or because you forgot, or because there was a problem.

- a) We were going to go away this weekend but the forecast is terrible so we’ll just have a quiet weekend at home.
- b) I was going to play tennis with John on Saturday afternoon but he just called to say he’s busy.
- c) I was going to buy an i-Pad then I saw the new Samsung Galaxy and I got that instead. I prefer the size.

Maria: Gina is in London. She called me earlier.

Hiroimi: That’s right – I was going to tell you. She sent me an e-mail a couple of days ago.

Anne: It’s time to go, Steve. It’s after six.

Steve: Already? I was going to try to finish this job today. I suppose I’ll have to leave it until tomorrow.

Lucy: Oh – I’m very sorry. Were you going to say something?

Paul: Yes, I was going to ask you what time you think we’ll finish this evening.

Complete the following sentences using ‘going to’:

- a) Look at those big black clouds .....
- b) She’s only seven but she’s nearly 5 feet tall! .....
- c) He’s pushing that window too hard .....

Complete the following sentences with ‘was / were going to’:

- a) I was going to have a quiet evening at home, then .....
- b) We were going to spend the weekend with friends .....
- c) We were going to cycle there but .....

to earn                      earner                      salary                      pay n.  
a living                      to earn a living                      to make a living

To **earn** means to receive money for the work you do.

- a) I have a part-time job washing dishes in a local factory canteen. I earn €8.75 per hour or €10.25 per hour if I work on Sunday or at night.
- b) Most workers in the hotel industry here earn under \$20,000 a year.
- c) We all know that money is important but a recent report in the US shows that people who earn \$50,000 and over are no happier than those who earn \$40,000.

The money you earn for the work you do is called your **salary** or your **pay**.

- a) Now I'm on a good salary but when I started work my pay was just enough to cover my rent and food bills.
- b) Cricketers in the Indian Premier League are the second top earners in world sport with salaries of £2.5 million. Only the NBA pays more, with players earning £2.62 million per year.

When you ask someone what they “do for a living” we want to know what their job is. We also use “living” in these phrases: if you **earn a living** or **make a living** it means that you earn enough money to pay for the things that you need – mainly your food and rent.

- a) She spent ten months in Costa Rica where she earned a living teaching English.
- b) Many young actors don't earn enough to make a living and have part-time jobs as well.

*Who are the top earners in your family? –  
Who earns the least?*

*What kinds of people can earn very high salaries? –  
Do you think they should earn so much?*

may

might

**May** and **might** are *modal verbs*. We use them together other verbs to express the idea of *possibility*. We can use **may** or **might** instead of having to use the words **maybe** or **perhaps**.

Steve: Do you know where the charger for my phone is?

John a): Maybe Paul has it.

John b): Paul may have it.

Kasey a): Could you ring Abdul and tell him that maybe we'll be late?

Kasey b): Could you ring Abdul and tell him that we may be late?

The *negative* is **may not** and **might not**.

Lucy a): Maybe Paul won't like our suggestion.

Lucy b): Paul might not like our suggestion.

John a): Simon called earlier to say that maybe he won't be able to come to dinner.

John b): Simon called earlier to say he may not be able to come to dinner.

When we use **may** or **might** for the *present* and the *future*, there's no difference between them; however **might** is more common than **may**. In *conditional* sentences we use **might** (and not **may**).

- If I had more money I might think about renting a bigger apartment.
- If you weren't so impatient you might learn things better. Just try and relax a bit more.
- John hasn't written back yet? It might be easier if you called him directly instead of e-mailing him.

*What can we say instead of:*

- Don't leave your suitcase there. Maybe someone will steal it.*
- Perhaps my brother will be able to help you.*
- On the forecast they said that there's the possibility of snow tonight.*

**deep****depth****shallow**

We often use the adjective **deep** when we are talking about *water*, for example in a lake, the sea or a river, a swimming pool or even a bathtub. **Deep** means that it's a long way from the top to the bottom. The *noun* from **deep** is **depth**.

- a) The deepest part of the world's oceans is the Mariana Trench in the Pacific at a depth of over 11,000 metres below sea level.

We can say that a *hole* is **deep**.

- b) How deep are rabbit-holes? Well, it depends on how hard the ground is but they can be over 20 ft deep.

In these cases the opposite of **deep** is usually **shallow**.

- c) Prawns and shrimps live in both sea-water and fresh-water. While some live in shallow water in lakes or in bays, other types live at depths of over 100 metres.

We can also say that 'sleep' is **deep**. When someone sleeps **deeply** it means that it's difficult to wake them up. Someone who sleeps deeply can be called a 'deep sleeper'.

- d) When I was a kid I was a really deep sleeper. I could even sleep with my brother and sister playing in the bedroom.

The opposite of a 'deep sleeper' is a 'light sleeper'.

- e) Since we've had kids I'm a very light sleeper. I even wake up if the hamster sneezes.

We can also describe someone's voice as **deep**. The opposite is a **high voice**.

Amy: Your friend Maggie has a very deep voice for a woman.

Sarah: I know – sometimes when she answers the phone I think it's her brother.

*How deep are swimming-pools? –*

*Are they usually the same depth at both ends? –*

*Which is the safest end for young children?*

- e) Now they get on well but they used to disagree about everything when they lived in the same apartment.

In all the examples above (a – e) there is a reference to *a period of time* – we do not need to ask ‘when?’.

3) **Used to** tells us that something happened a long time ago – not yesterday or last month – and that the situation is different now.

- a) Now there’s only one cinema in this town but there used to be four.  
b) Nowadays you can’t even swim in this lake but you used to be able to drink the water.

If someone says that they **used to do** something we know that they don’t do it any more or it is no longer true.

- c) I never used to like classical music. (But now I like it a lot.)  
d) My little brother used to have long hair. (Now he has short hair – or maybe he doesn’t have any hair.)

4) Look at these sentences with the **past simple** and with **used to**:

- a) I lost at tennis against Philip.

Here we understand that we are probably talking about a single game.

- b) I used to lose at tennis against Philip.

Here we understand that we played regularly and that I never (or hardly ever) won. Now things are different – maybe I usually win, or maybe we don’t play anymore.

*What’s another way of saying:*

- 1) *My grandfather says that people were more polite in the past.*  
2) *My brother talked in his sleep when he was little.*

Use **used to** in the answers to these questions, where possible:

*Where were your parents born? –*

*Do you know where they went to school? –*

*Did they know each other when they were at school?*

to be in touch (with)

to get in touch (with)

to keep in touch (with)

to lose touch (with)

If you are **in touch with** other people it means that you don't see them very often but you speak to them or write to them regularly (but not necessarily often).

Steve: Are you still in touch with Bobby O'Gara?

Sarah: Yes, – we still hear from each other a couple of times a year, although I haven't seen him for about three years.

To **get in touch with** someone means to phone them, to write to them, or to send them a message. To **get in touch** is an informal way of saying to 'contact'.

- If you come to London one weekend you should get in touch with us. It would be really nice to meet up again.
- Could you try and get in touch with Ludmila? I wanted to ask her something about Novosibirsk – I might have to go there soon on business.

If you **keep in touch** with someone it means that you see each other or hear from each other regularly.

- This is a picture of us on the beach with another family we met. They're really nice – we still keep in touch.
- I don't know why, but I've never kept in touch with any of the old friends I used to go to college with.
- Why don't men keep in touch with old friends like women do?

*What can we say instead of, "Please contact our sales office"?*

*How good are you at keeping in touch with friends and family? –*

*How do you keep in touch?*

*Are you waiting for someone to get in touch with you?*

*Is there anyone you'd like to get in touch with you?*

*Do you ever keep in touch with people you meet on holiday?*