

WISH / IF ONLY

Subject + wish... If only... more emphatic, stronger	+ Subject	+ past perfect > regrets about the past regret (n): <i>pesar, arrepentimiento</i> ; to regret (v): <i>lamentar</i>
		+ past > regrets about the present
		+ would > complaints: quejas

Regrets about the past. These people did something yesterday which they now regret. What does each person say? Use the Past Perfect

Clare has caught a bad cold - yesterday she went out in the rain without an umbrella ► I wish/ If only I hadn't gone out in the rain without an umbrella.

- 1 Joe has got very bad sunburn - yesterday he stayed in the sun for long.
- 2 He's got an awful stomachache - yesterday he ate a lot.
- 3 Lewis hurt his leg in a car crash - yesterday he didn't drive carefully.
- 4 Sue has hurt her back - yesterday she lifted a heavy table on her own.

Regrets about the present. Use the Past to complete what the speaker

says

1 I'm so shy.

I wish

2 I don't know what to say to people.

3 I find it so difficult to make friends.

4 I'm not good-looking.

5 My ears are so big.

If only

Complaints. Complete these people's complaints, using "would/wouldn't"

1 A zoo keeper: "I wish people _____ (*feed*) the animals."

2 A teacher: "I wish my students _____ (*do*) their homework on time."

3 A hotel chambermaid: "If only guests _____ (*clean*) the bath after they've used it."

4 A park keeper: "I wish people _____ (*pick*) the flowers."

5 A street cleaner: "If only people _____ (*take*) their litter home."

What would you say? Use "I wish.../ If only..."

- 1 You'd like the baby to stop crying because you're trying to sleep.
- 2 It's a pity you can't swim.
- 3 You don't like it when Jack leaves the door open.
- 4 You have to work tomorrow but you'd like to stay in bed.
- 5 You would like people to stop fighting.
- 6 You're sorry you didn't bring your camera.
- 7 It's a pity you didn't work harder during the term.
- 8 You're sorry you didn't get a ticket for the concert.

WOULD RATHER

Subject + would rather/ sooner + Subject + past
(= Subject + would prefer someone [not] to...)

You are speaking to a friend. Complete the sentences using "I'd rather you..." and a past form

- 1 You could go now, but _____ (stay) a bit longer.
- 2 This is a secret, so _____ (not tell) anyone.
- 3 I could phone the hotel, but _____ (phone) them.
- 4 _____ (not turn on) the TV if you don't mind.
- 5 _____ (not come) in the afternoon. I'll be quite busy then.

It's time

It's (high/ about) time + S + past

(used when someone should have already done something)

Make sentences with: "It's (high/ about) time..." or "Isn't it (high/ about) time...?" and a past form

- 1 You haven't bought any new clothes for a long time.
- 2 It's nearly lunch time, but Simon hasn't got up yet.
Don't you think it's
- 3 You promised to write to a friend three weeks ago.
- 4 You haven't had a holiday for a long time.
- 5 You haven't learnt to spell.

Rewrite these sentences with the new beginnings.

- 1 **If we want to arrive on time we should leave now.**
It's time
- 2 **What a pity he didn't spend more time revising.**
If only
- 3 **I should have learnt German at school!**
I wish
- 4 **I'd prefer to stay at home tonight if you don't mind.**
I'd rather
- 5 **Please don't interrupt me when I'm speaking.**

I'd rather

6 We ought to find out how much it's going to cost.

It's time we

7 I've got so much to do today.

I wish

8 What a shame you didn't tell me earlier.

If only