

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. **I WISH I HADN'T STAYED IN THE SUN SO LONG**

2 He's got an awful stomachache - yesterday he ate a lot. **I WISH I'D EATEN LESS**

Lewis hurt his leg in a car crash - yesterday he didn't drive carefully. **I WISH I'D DRIVEN MORE CAREFULLY**

4 Sue has hurt her back - yesterday she lifted a heavy table on her own. **I WISH I HADN'T TRIED TO LIFT A HEAVY TABLE ON MY OWN**

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

says

1 I'm so shy.

I wish **I WEREN'T SO SHY**

2 I don't know what to say to people. **IF ONLY I KNEW WHAT TO SAY TO PEOPLE**

3 I find it so difficult to make friends. **I WISH I DIDN'T FIND IT SO DIFFICULT TO MAKE FRIENDS**

4 I'm not good-looking. **I WISH I WERE GOOD-LOOKING**

5 My ears are so big.

If only **MY EARS WEREN'T SO**

BIG

Complaints. Complete these people's complaints, using "would/

wouldn't"

1 A zoo keeper: "I wish people **WOULDN'T FEED** (*feed*) the animals."

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

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

A park keeper: "I wish people **WOULDN'T PICK** (*pick*) the flowers."

4 A street cleaner: "If only people **WOULD TAKE** (*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. **IF ONLY THE BABY WOULD STOP CRYING**
- 2 It's a pity you can't swim. **I WISH I COULD SWIM**
- 3 You don't like it when Jack leaves the door open. **I WISH JACK WOULDN'T LEAVE THE DOOR OPEN**
- 4 You have to work tomorrow but you'd like to stay in bed. **IF ONLY I DIDN'T HAVE TO WORK TOMORROW**
- 5 You would like people to stop fighting. **IF ONLY PEOPLE WOULD STOP FIGHTING**
- 6 You're sorry you didn't bring your camera. **I WISH I HAD BROUGHT MY CAMERA**
- 7 It's a pity you didn't work harder during the term. **I WISH I HAD WORKED HARDER DURING THE TERM**
- 8 You're sorry you didn't get a ticket for the concert. **IF ONLY I HAD GOT 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 **WOULD RATHER YOU STAYED** (stay) a bit longer.
This is a secret, so **I'D RATHER YOU DIDN'T TELL** (not tell) anyone.
- 2 I could phone the hotel, but **I'D RATHER YOU PHONED** (phone) them.
- 3 **I'D RATHER YOU DIDN'T TURN ON** (not turn on) the TV if you don't mind.
- 4 **I'D RATHER YOU DIDN'T COME** (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. **IT'S TIME I BOUGHT SOME NEW CLOTHES**

It's nearly lunch time, but Simon hasn't got up yet. **Don't you think it's TIME YOU GOT UP?**

2 You promised to write to a friend three weeks ago. **IT'S TIME I WROTE TO HIM**

3 You haven't had a holiday for a long time. **IT'S TIME I HAD A HOLIDAY**

4 You haven't learnt to spell. **ISN'T IT TIME I 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 **WE LEFT IF WE WANT TO ARRIVE ON TIME**

2 What a pity he didn't spend more time revising.

If only **HE HAD SPENT MORE TIME REVISING**

3 I should have learnt German at school!

I wish **I HAD LEARNT GERMAN AT SCHOOL**

4 I'd prefer to stay at home tonight if you don't mind.

I'd rather **STAY AT HOME TONIGHT IF YOU DON'T MIND**

5 Please don't interrupt me when I'm speaking.

I'd rather **YOU DIDN'T INTERRUPT ME WHEN I'M SPEAKING**

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

It's time we **FOUND OUT HOW MUCH IT'S GOING TO COST**

7 **I've got so much to do today.**

I wish **I DIDN'T HAVE SO MUCH TO DO TODAY**

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

If only **YOU HAD TOLD ME EARLIER**