

## CONDITIONALS (2)

### 107. Study the following information. Make notes.

UNREAL PAST		
<p>The <b>Past Simple</b> can be used to talk about imaginary, unreal or improbable situations <b>in the present</b> and the <b>Past Perfect</b> can be used to refer to imaginary, unreal or improbable situations <b>in the past</b>. This use of the Past forms is called the Unreal Past. We use the <b>Unreal Past</b> as follows:</p>		
PAST SIMPLE	PAST PERFECT	
<p><b>Conditionals Type 2</b> (unreal in the present) <i>If I <b>were</b> you, I <b>would</b> pay.</i></p> <p><b>wish</b> (present) <i>I <b>wish</b> he <b>were</b> here now.</i></p> <p><b>I'd rather/sooner sb ...</b> (present) <i>I'd <b>rather</b> you <b>went</b> now.</i></p> <p><b>as if/as though</b> (untrue situation in the present) <i>He <b>isn't</b> French but he <b>speaks</b> French as if he <b>were</b> from France.</i></p> <p><b>it's (about/high) time</b> <i>It's <b>time</b> you <b>retired</b>.</i></p>	<p><b>Conditionals Type 3</b> (unreal in the past) <i>If I <b>had seen</b> him, I <b>would have</b> told you.</i></p> <p><b>wish</b> (past) <i>If only you <b>had taken</b> his advice when he gave it.</i></p> <p><b>I'd rather/sooner sb ...</b> (past) <i>I'd <b>rather</b> you <b>hadn't</b> told all those lies.</i></p> <p><b>as if/as though</b> (untrue situation in the past) <i>He <b>hadn't</b> been awarded the first prize but he behaved as if he <b>had been</b> awarded it.</i></p>	
HAD BETTER = SHOULD		
<b>I had better</b>	+ present bare infinitive	(present/future reference)
<i>We <b>had better</b> <b>stop</b> smoking. (= We <b>should</b> stop smoking.)</i>		
<b>It would have been better if</b>	+ Past Perfect	(past reference)
<i>It <b>would have been</b> better if you <b>hadn't</b> lied to her. (= You <b>shouldn't</b> have lied to her.)</i>		
WOULD RATHER = I'D PREFER		
<p>when the subject of <b>would rather</b> is also the subject of the following verb</p>	<p><b>I'd rather</b> + Present bare infinitive (present/future reference) <b>Perfect bare infinitive</b> (past reference) <i>I'd <b>rather</b> go to the shops tomorrow.</i> <i>I'd <b>rather</b> not have gone yesterday.</i></p>	

when the subject of <b>would rather</b> is <b>different</b> from the subject of the following verb	<p>I'd <b>rather sb</b> + <b>Past Simple</b> (present/future reference)</p> <p><b>Past Perfect (past reference)</b></p> <p><i>I'd rather you <b>studied</b> a little more.</i></p> <p><i>I'd rather you <b>had passed</b> your driving test.</i></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• prefer + gerund/noun + to + gerund/noun (general)</li> </ul> <p><i>I prefer (watching) TV to (going to) the cinema.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• prefer + full infinitive + rather than + bare infinitive (general reference)</li> </ul> <p><i>I prefer to stay at home rather than go out.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• would prefer + full infinitive + rather than + bare infinitive (specific reference)</li> </ul> <p><i>I'd prefer to write to him rather than call him.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• would rather + bare infinitive + than + bare infinitive</li> </ul> <p><i>I'd rather buy a new dress than have this one taken in.</i></p>	

### 108. Put the verbs in brackets into the correct form.

1. I'd sooner you ...*did*... (do) something with your time rather than sit around all day.
2. He didn't win a prize, but he looked as though he... (win) one.
3. If you hadn't seen the car in time, it... (hit) you.
4. It's about time you... (go) on a holiday.
5. I'd rather you... (not/drive) so fast, Pat.
6. It would have been better if you... (tell) me the truth.
7. Sue went to France this year, but she says she would rather... (go) to Spain.
8. It's a shame you missed the party; I would rather you... (be) there.
9. John had better... (not/speak) to me like that again.
10. He says he'd rather... (cook) his own food than eat in restaurants.
11. I'd rather you ... (not/mention) this to anyone until next week.
12. Tim's mother would rather he ... (work) closer to home than he does.
13. The soup would have tasted better if you... (not/put) so much pepper in it.
14. Greg says he would rather ... (not/leave) things as they are.
15. She would prefer to meet you personally rather than ... (talk) to you over the phone.
16. Sean prefers playing football to ... (watch) it.

17. Would you rather ... (write) in ink or in pencil?
18. Sheila prefers ... (get up) early in the morning rather than ... (oversleep).
19. Wouldn't you prefer to sit on this seat rather than... (stand) for the whole journey?
20. I wish I... (be) as good as you at mathematics.
21. It seemed as if he... (not/understand) the question.
22. I wouldn't have given him all that money if you... (not/advise) me to.
23. Crime will continue to rise unless more police... (be/put) on the streets.
24. If he... (play) better, he would have won the game.
25. I wish Jim... (not/move) to London last year as I hardly see him now.
26. If I... (be) in the post office 5 minutes earlier, I would have witnessed the robbery.
27. I wish I... (invite) more people to my fancy dress party last week.
28. If I... (not/be) afraid of heights, I would try parachuting.
29. If you... (not/let) her make her own decisions, she will never learn.
30. We'd better... (take) some money for a taxi in case we miss the last bus home.

**109. Put the verbs in brackets into the appropriate form.**

The young reporter walked up to the table where Dora Spangle was sitting and introduced himself.

"Miss Spangle, I'm Dan Quaid from '*Star International*'." The actress smiled up at him charmingly.

"If I 1) ..*had known*... (know) you were coming, I'd have reserved a bigger table," she said.

"You're too kind," laughed Dan.

"You 2) ... (not/say) that if you knew what a huge appetite I have!" "Probably not," agreed Dora. "Now, I have to go in ten minutes. So, if I were you, I 3) ... (start) asking your questions."

"Very well. Do you have any regrets about retiring from acting?" asked Dan.

"Not about retiring," she replied. "But I do wish I 4) ... (play) the role of Cleopatra just once in my career."

"If someone 5) ... (offer) you the part now, would you take it?"  
 "No, it's too late now. I've decided to retire and that's final."  
 "What 6) ... (you/do) if you get bored?"  
 "Oh, there's no chance of that," she assured him. "I might get bored if I 7) ... (not/have) all my animals to look after, though."  
 "Do you ever wish you 8) ... (marry)?" Dan asked.  
 "Not really," she replied. "Although I probably 9) ... (marry) John Rogers if he had asked me," she added sadly.  
 "What if ..."  
 "I'm sorry," Dora interrupted. "I really must go now. It's time to feed my dogs and they get very upset if I 10) ... (be)."

### IMPLIED CONDITIONALS

**110. An if-clause is not always stated; it is often implied and the rules for the verb usage are still followed in the result clause (main clause).**

*He committed the crime, otherwise he wouldn't have been arrested. (implied conditional)*

*If he hadn't committed the crime, he wouldn't have been arrested.*

*I would have stayed longer, but he didn't ask me to. (implied conditional)*

*I would have stayed longer if he had asked me to.*

WISHES		
	Form	Use
I wish (if only) (wish/regret about the present)	+ Past tense	wish/regret about a present situation <b>we want to be different</b>
<i>I wish you worked more efficiently. (It's a pity you don't work more efficiently.)</i>		
I wish (if only) (wish/regret about the present)	+ <b>could</b> + <b>bare infinitive</b>	wish/regret in the present concerning <b>lack of ability</b>
<i>I wish I could drive a car. (But I can't.)</i>		
I wish (if only) (regret about the past)	+ <b>Past Perfect</b>	regret that something <b>happened or didn't happen in the past</b>
<i>I wish I had attended the seminar last Monday. (But I didn't. It's a pity I didn't attend it.)</i>		

<p><b>I wish</b> (if only) (impossible wish for a future change)</p>	<p>+ <b>subject</b> + <b>would</b> + <b>bare infinitive</b> a) "wish" and "would" should have <b>different subjects</b>. We <b>never say</b>: <del>I wish I would, He wishes he would</del> etc b) wish + inanimate subject + would is used to express the speaker's lack of hope or disappointment</p>	<p>wish for a future change unlikely to happen or wish to express <b>dissatisfaction</b>; polite request implying dissatisfaction or <b>lack of hope</b></p>
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*I wish he would drive more carefully. (But I don't think he will. – wish for a future change unlikely to happen)*

*I wish the children would be more co-operative. (The children have refused to co-operate. – dissatisfaction)*

*I wish you would be more patient with Jim. (Please be more patient with him! – request implying lack of hope)*

*I wish it would stop raining. (But I'm afraid it won't stop raining. – wish implying disappointment)*

In wishes, we go **one tense back**. This means that we use the Past Simple in the present or the Past Perfect in the past.

*He's ill. He wishes he weren't ill. (present)*

*I overslept yesterday. I wish I hadn't overslept yesterday. (past)*

After **I wish** we can use **were** instead of was in all persons.

*I wish I were richer.*

**If only** means the same as **I wish** but it is more dramatic.

*If only I were richer.*

### 111. Write sentences as in the example:

1. You want to visit Australia but you're frightened of flying.

*... I wish I weren't frightened of flying. If I weren't frightened of flying, I could/would visit Australia.*

2. You wanted to go to the theatre but you couldn't find any tickets anywhere.

3. You wanted to ring Kelly but you lost her phone number.

4. You want to make a coffee but you've run out.

5. You want to go swimming but it's too cold.

6. You went on holiday; your camera was stolen.

**112. Put the verbs in brackets into the correct form.**

A miner's life is a hard one. I wish it 1) ...*weren't*... (not/be) so dirty and unhealthy. I also wish we 2) ... (work) shorter hours and 3) ... (have) better working conditions. If only I 4) ... (not/leave) school so early. I wish I 5) ... (do) something else, but the only thing I know is mining. I'd prefer 6) ... (have) a job in the open air. There is nothing I'd rather 7) ... (do) than work on a farm, for example – all that fresh air and open space! I wish the owners 8) ... (make) my job a little safer. If only someone 9) ... (invent) a machine to go underground, then I wouldn't have to do it. And I wish people 10) ... (stop) complaining about how much money we earn because we deserve every penny we get. I wish I 11) ... (be) a young boy again and 12) ... (have) the chance to choose something else. My father was a miner, but I wish I 13) ... (not/decide) to follow in his footsteps. My son had better 14) ... (study) hard if he doesn't want to follow in mine!

**113. Complete the following sentences with an appropriate conditional clause.**

- If I won £1,000,000, ...
- If you do well in the interview, ...
- If you had caught the bus, ...
- Should you see Jane tonight, ...
- Unless he gets a promotion, ...
- She would have gone to work ...
- Only if you save your money, ...

**114. Complete the following sentences using the words in bold.**

1. She would have stayed longer, but the babysitter needed to leave at 9.00.

**not** If the babysitter *had not needed to leave* at 9.00, she would have stayed longer.

2. We stopped at the service station. Otherwise, we would have run out of petrol.

**not** If .....at the service station, we would have run out of petrol.

3. I would have bought you a present but I didn't know that it was your birthday.

**wish** I ..... it was your birthday; I would have bought you a present.

4. It's a pity I didn't read that book.

**wish** I ..... that book.

5. Ann can organise the concert but somebody must help her.  
**helps** Only if somebody..... the concert.
6. Helen would have lent you the money but you didn't ask her.  
**asked** If..... she would have lent you the money.
7. I didn't finish my assignment because I came down with a terrible cold.  
**would** If I hadn't come down with a terrible cold, ..... my assignment.
8. I learnt to swim because you encouraged me.  
**never** I ..... to swim if you hadn't encouraged me.
9. Lee didn't drive me to the airport and as a result I missed my flight.  
**wish** I ..... me to the airport; I wouldn't have missed my flight.
10. Kate will move to London but she must find a job first.  
**finds** Only if Kate..... move to London





