

## UNREAL TENSES

<b>wish / if only</b>	
<b>Wish for the Present</b>	<p>Nos lamentamos de la situación presente.</p> <p><b>Wish + past simple</b></p> <p><b>I wish I <u>had</u> money.</b> ( but I don't have)</p> <p><b>I wish he <u>were</u> here.</b> (but he isn't)/ se utiliza <u>were</u> para todas las personas.</p>
<b>Wish for the Past</b>	<p>Nos lamentamos por algo que ya ha sucedido.</p> <p><b>Wish + past perfect</b></p> <p><b>I wish I <u>had studied</u> more.</b> ( I've failed the exam)</p>
<b>Wish for the Future</b>	<p>Cuando se quiere expresar un deseo sobre el futuro o expresar una queja sobre una situación presente, se emplea la estructura:</p> <p><b>Sujeto 1 + wish + sujeto 2 + would + infinitivo</b></p> <p>Se puede usar <b>could</b> en vez de <b>would</b>.</p> <p><b>Sujeto 2:</b> obligatoriamente debe haber un sujeto distinto.</p> <p><b>I wish <u>it would rain</u> tomorrow.</b> (deseo futuro)</p> <p><b>I wish <u>you would be</u> quiet.</b> ( queja sobre alguien)</p>
<b>If only</b>	<p>Se emplea para sugerir un deseo o lamento sobre el presente, pasado o futuro. Se usa la misma estructura de <b>wish</b>. Pero resulta más enfático.</p> <p><b>If only I <u>had</u> money to pay my debt.</b></p> <p><b>If only I <u>hadn't eaten</u> so much.</b></p> <p><b>If only <u>it would stop</u> raining.</b></p>

1. Choose the correct answer:

- a. I wish I (**were, would be**) older than you.
- b. Mandy is flying to Spain next week. I wish I ( **could go, could have gone**) with her.
- c. The train has just left! I wish we (**hurried, had hurried**).
- d. I would love to play basketball. I wish I (**were, had been**) taller.
- e. The party was terrific. I wish you (**were, had been**) there.
- f. You look great! I wish I (**looked, had looked**) like you.
- g. He was in an accident. He wishes he (**didn't drive, hadn't driven**) so fast.
- h. John failed his test. He wishes he (**studied, had studied**) harder.
- i. Alan wishes you (**would have come, had come**)
- j. I'm having a great time in Spain. I wish you (**were, had been**) here.

2. Choose the correct answer.

- A. I wish you \_\_\_\_\_ so much time watching TV!  
a. don't spend b. spent c. wouldn't spend
- B. Brenda wishes she \_\_\_\_\_ more money than she does.  
a. earned b. earn c. would earn
- C. I wish I \_\_\_\_\_ blonde and beautiful!  
a. would be b. were c. would earn
- D. Sandra wishes she \_\_\_\_\_ to Thailand with her brother.  
a. would go b. were going c. went
- E. If only she \_\_\_\_\_ me before!  
a. would tell b. told c. had told
- F. Do you ever wish you \_\_\_\_\_ prime minister?  
a. have been b. were c. was

G. Don't you ever wish you \_\_\_\_\_ in a small village?

a. would live b. live c. lived

H. Meryl wishes she \_\_\_\_\_ to Greece with her cousin.

a. went b. could go c. would go

I. Juliet often wishes she \_\_\_\_\_ a famous actress.

a. would be b. have been c. could be

J. I wish Tommy \_\_\_\_\_ cry so much!

a. wouldn't b. would c. couldn't

## WOULD RATHER

1. **Would rather** means “prefiero / preferiría”. After would rather we use **bare infinitive** (Infinitive without to).

“Would you like to go on holiday in June?”

“**I’d rather go** in July.”

“**Would you rather meet** me on Monday or Tuesday?”

- The negative form is **would rather not**.

“**I’d rather not let** him any money.”

- Pay attention to this construction:

**would rather (do something) than (do something else)**

“**I’d rather take** a taxi to the station **than go** by bus.”

2. **Would rather + Past** : can be used to show that we prefer somebody else to do something.

**Would rather + subject + past**

“**I’d rather you stayed** here with me.”

“**I’d rather you didn’t open** that window. I’m cold.”

### PRACTICE

- Complete the following sentences with **would rather** + an appropriate verb:
  - “Shall we go out this evening?” “I think I \_\_\_\_\_ at home”
  - It’s a beautiful day. Shall we go to the beach or \_\_\_\_\_ (you) to the country?
  - “Would you like to watch TV?” “I \_\_\_\_\_ to some music.”
  - We could wait for the next bus or walk home. What \_\_\_\_\_ (you)?
- You are talking to a friend. Complete the sentences using “I’d rather you...” and the past of the verbs in the box. Use each verb only once. ( COME, NOT OPEN, STAY, PHONE, NOT TURN ON)

Ex. *You could go now if you want to, but **I’d rather you stayed** a bit longer.*

- \_\_\_\_\_ the window. I’m rather cold.
- I could phone the restaurant if you like, but \_\_\_\_\_ them.
- \_\_\_\_\_ the TV if you don’t mind. I’ve got a terrible headache.
- “Shall I come and see you tomorrow morning?”  
\_\_\_\_\_ in the afternoon. I’ll be quite busy in the morning.

## It's time....

**It's time** + Subject + Past tense

***It's time I did** something for someone else!*

***It's time people woke up** to the fact that there are a lot of political prisoners in the world.*

The meaning conveyed is present and future. We use it to complain and criticise people and things and also to talk about doing something we have been putting off. We can add **high** or **about** before time to make the complaint or criticism stronger.

- Complete the sentences using the verbs in brackets.
1. If you're concerned about the environment then it's \_\_\_\_\_ Greenpeace. (join)
  2. This government is always making promises.  
It's \_\_\_\_\_ something about keeping them! (do)
  3. I've put on five kilos in the last two months. It's \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ some weight. (lose)
  4. The train is already late. It's about \_\_\_\_\_ (arrive)
  5. My car is filthy. It's \_\_\_\_\_ it. (wash)
  6. I'm so tired that I can hardly stay awake. It's \_\_\_\_\_  
to bed.(go)