



Subjunctive 3

Grammar > Advanced 8



Exercise 1 – Learning

I wish

'To wish' is to want something that is unlikely to happen.

We use 'I wish' to talk about:

1. Something we wish were different about our present situation:

'I wish' + (past tense sentence)

I wish I *had* a boyfriend.

2. A wish or regret about the past.

'I wish' + (past perfect sentence)

I wish I *had finished* my homework.



If only

'If only' means the same thing as 'I wish' but is stronger.

We use 'if only' to talk about:

1. A strong wish that things could be different.

'If only' + (past tense sentence)

If only I *could* speak English!

2. A strong wish or a regret about the past.

'If only' + (past perfect sentence)

If only I *had brought* my wallet!



Exercise 2 – Rephrasing

Rephrase the following sentences so that they are correct.

Example: I wish I have a boyfriend. → I wish I had a boyfriend.

Content:

1. I wish I am married.
2. I wish I have gone to your party.
3. If only I can speak English.
4. I wish I went to the concert yesterday.
5. If only I have slept more.
6. I wish I am at the concert now.
7. If only we win the lottery.
8. If only I have a better internet connection.



Exercise 3 – Sentence Construction

Use 'If only' or 'I wish' to create sentences with your tutor.

Example: a pilot → I wish I were a pilot.

Content:

1. a millionaire
2. taller
3. a movie director
4. smarter
5. did not quit my last job
6. have more free time