

Wishes and Regrets - Practice

1. Read the letter from a man in prison to his wife. Choose the correct underlined words.

My dearest Monique

I can't begin to tell you how much I miss you. If only I (0) didn't listen / hadn't listened to Tommy Evans all those months ago when he said he wanted a driver to take him to the airport. Obviously, I wish the police (1) didn't catch / hadn't caught us at the warehouse, but I wish even more that I (2) didn't believe / hadn't believed his story.

Well, I'm here now, and I suppose I'm lucky that it's only for two years. I just wish that I (3) am / was closer to home. If only you (4) could visit / could have visited me more often, then I'm sure life would be easier.

Things aren't too bad here, really. I can work during the day and the evenings are OK, but the nights are awful - I really wish the other prisoners (5) would make / wouldn't make so much noise at night, and I wish I (6) can / could get some more sleep.

Well, I'd better go. It's time (7) I join / to join the others for 'evening activities'. I do enjoy getting letters from you and I wish you (8) would write / write to me more often. I (9) wish / hope that I'll see you soon, but I'd rather (10) you don't bring / you didn't bring the children - I don't want them to see me here.

2. Read the first sentence and then unscramble the second one. Speak your answer.

1. We got lost in Paris. have / a map / should / taken / we
2. My uncle is in jail. robbed / he / have / a bank / shouldn't
3. The flowers died. I / more often / watered them / should / have
4. I'm really hungry. should / eaten / have / breakfast / a bigger / I
5. I fell into the water. have / I / should / careful / been / more
6. Jon's father got angry. a lie / shouldn't / Jon / have / him / told
7. I'm broke. bought / I / have / shouldn't / last week / a new car
8. This hotel is terrible. another one / should / I / have / stayed at
9. It's getting cold. should / brought / have / our jackets / we
10. The movie was boring. it / watched / shouldn't / we / have