CENTRO INTERESCOLAR DE LÍNGUAS DE SOBRADINHO

Student's name: _____ *Date:* ____/____/____

Teacher: _____ *Level:* **3D** *2nd semester 2020*

I WISH/I ONLY

Wishes about The Present

We use *wish* with *past Tense forms* (simple and continuous) to express regret about *present situations*:

- ***I wish I was taller = (I'm not very tall)***
- ***I wish I was going with you = (but I'm not)***

"I wish you were more helpful. = (you are not).

"I wish I were" can replace "I wish I was."

NOTE : If you want to be more grammatically correct, "*I wish I were*" is the best choice. Therefore, whenever taking a test, writing a composition or in any other more formal situation, for instance, prefer to use "*were*" :

✓ ***"I wish I were taller."***

We use wish with *could* to express a wish for a present situation to be different when talking about *ability* or *possibility*. *Would is not used to talk about ability or possibility* :

✓ ***I wish I could use a computer well.***

✗ ~~***I wish I would tell her about it.***~~

✓ ***I wish I could tell her about it.***

Therefore, we use the* main verb *in* the Past Tense (Past Simple or Past Continuous) *every time we talk about* Present Regrets *with* I wish *and* If Only *sentences:

***I wish I knew the answer.* (= I don't know)**
I wish I was /were better at sports. (= I'm not)
I wish I was /were going with you. (= I'm not)
I wish I could give you an answer. (= I can't)

Wishes about The Future

We use wish with would to say how we would like somebody to behave in the future. In these situations, we don't use the infinitive form "to + verb" or "will" : NOTE: after the verb "stop" an "-ing" verb form follows to indicate that action is to be finished.

✗ ~~***I wish you to stop talking.***~~

✓ ***I wish you would stop *talking.***

✗ ~~***I wish that they will stop arguing.***~~

I wish they would stop *arguing.

We can also use this pattern in situations that do not involve people:
"I wish this car would go faster".

Wishes about The Past

We use wish with the *Past Perfect ("had + past participle") or *could have + past participle when we have Regrets about the past:

"I wish I *hadn't taken your advice." (= but I did)
"I wish she *could have come." (= but she couldn't)

If only

If only can be more emphatic than I wish. The verb forms after "if only" are the same as the patterns with "I wish":

If only I had more money! (= but I don't)
If only I was going on holiday with you! (=but I'm not)
If only you were here. (= but you're not)
If only the sun would come out! (=but it won't)
If only you could be here! (= but you can't)
If only I'd listened to you! (=but I didn't)
If only he could have explained! (=but he wasn't able to)

Now complete the following sentences with the correct form of the verb in parentheses. Some sentences will require a negative form. Use contractions in the negative forms.

1. I wish you _____ (stop) using your cell phone while I am talking to you!

2. Michael wishes he _____ (have) more money so he could buy a new car.

3. Harry is always late. If only he _____ (show up) on time for a change!

4. I wish vacation _____ (come) so we could go to the beach.

5. Of course Susan wishes she _____ (come) with us to Venice, but she has to stay here in Dallas.

6. I wish we _____ (go) to the soccer game on Saturday but we're visiting my uncle.

7. I wish I _____ (be) a better singer so that I could sing her a beautiful song.

8. I wish you _____ (keep) your mouth shut yesterday. Now Clara knows the truth.

*9. I wish you _____ (do) that. It **gets on my nerves**!*

*10. If only I _____ (lose) all my money. Now **I'm broke**!*