

Wishes

We use *wish* to express:

. *wish + Past Simple*

-> regret about the present

Laura wishes she lived closer to the beach.

. *wish + Past Perfect*

-> regret about a past
situation we can't change

Alex wishes he had invited Sarah to his party last week.

. *wish + would + bare infinitive*

-> complaint for change in
present (different subject)

I wish Peter would stop taking my tablet without asking.

. *wish + could + bare infinitive*

-> desire something will
happen in the future (same subject)

Molly wishes she could have some time off work.

✓ If only *can* replace *wish* for emphasis.

✓ We use *were* instead of *was* in formal English.

Check your knowledge, choose the correct sentence:

___ I wish I lived closer to the school.

___ I wish I live closer to the school.

___ If only I can come with you on holiday.

___ If only I could come with you on holiday.

___ I wish I hadn't told her the news.

___ I wish I didn't tell her the news.

___ I wish my sister doesn't borrow all my things.

___ I wish my sister wouldn't borrow all my things.

___ He wishes he will receive more pocket money.

___ He wishes he received more pocket money.

___ If only he had invited me to his party last Sunday.

___ If only he would have invited me to his party last Sunday.

___ I wish they could join us tonight.

___ I wish they would join us tonight.

___ I wish I can speak Spanish.

___ I wish I spoke Spanish.

___ Polly wishes she were in the Bahamas right now.

___ Polly wishes she would be in the Bahamas right now.

___ I wish we hadn't left so early last night.

___ I wish we didn't leave so early last night.