

## DAY 55. PRACTICE 1

### PRACTICE

**A. Complete the sentences using the correct form of the verb in brackets, positive or negative.  
There may be more than one possible answer.**

1. I wish my best friend ..... (make) it to my party last night but she was ill.
2. If only my flat ..... (look out) over the sea ... then it would be perfect.
3. Many women of my mother's generation wish they ..... (give up) their careers when they had children.
4. Jonathan wishes Bill ..... (get) so aggressive whenever they play squash.
5. If only the old stadium ..... (knock down). I can't imagine the city without it.
6. When things get tough, I often wish I ..... (just pack) my bags and go on holiday.
7. I wish the weather ..... (brighten up). It's really getting me down.
8. The travel agent said that we would probably end up wishing that we ..... (book) a fortnight because the resort is so beautiful.

**B. Complete the sentences using the correct word or phrase below. Use each word or phrase only once.**

hope \* high time \* as though \* would prefer \* time for \* wish \* would rather \* wish to

1. Our manager ..... we had taken less time off in the summer.
2. The sky looked ..... someone had painted a huge orange stripe across it.
3. I ..... it doesn't rain tonight – we want to have a barbecue.
4. It's ..... the show to be broadcast.
5. I ..... you could have seen the look on his face when I told him what I think of him.
6. Many voters feel it's ..... the government did something about the health service.
7. I ..... it if you didn't watch me while I'm working.
8. Should you ..... withdraw from the course, please notify us in writing.

**C. Complete the text using the most suitable tense of one of the following verbs, positive or negative. One verb can be used twice.**

stay \* throw \* go through \* bring \* go \* give up \* emigrate \* be \* sprain

## IF ONLY I COULD STAY HOME

I wish I (1) ..... on holiday next week! I know it sounds strange but it causes so much trouble that sometimes I feel I'd rather (2) ..... home. The hassle starts when we first utter the words, "So where are we going this year?" and doesn't end until you're home, faced with enough washing to fill the machine 10 times over and wishing you (3) ..... away. Take packing, for example. You have to take twice as much as you need to avoid getting to the hotel and thinking, "I wish I (4) ..... my blue dress instead." So you end up looking as if you (5) ..... when in reality you were heading off for seven days half-board in Minorca.

I often wish I (6) ..... just ..... a few items in a bag and make do with those, but I know I'm not brave enough. I'd sooner (7) ..... a wrist trying to lug my suitcase off the baggage reclaim than risk being seen with shoes that clash with my handbag! Maybe it's time I (8) ..... holidays altogether. I'd save a fortune and reduce my summer stress levels no end. If only I (9) ..... strong enough to resist the glossy brochures that appear every year in the dark days of January. But even if I tried, I know I'd suffer at the sight of a colleagues' holiday snaps and wish that I (10) ..... the whole procedure as usual.

**D. Choose the correct answers.**

1. Ryan annoyed everyone by behaving ..... the team captain.  
a. though he is      b. if only he were      c. supposing that      d. as if he were
2. Max would have preferred ..... had been put off.  
a. if the meeting      b. it if the meeting      c. the meeting      d. to have the meeting
3. "I'd love to see Madonna live, wouldn't you?" "Yeah. I wish she ..... at a venue near us."  
a. was performing      b. would have performed      c. is performing      d. had to perform
4. "I got a letter from Matt yesterday." "Well, it's ..... in touch."  
a. about time he got      b. time for him to      c. high time he would get      d. time he was getting
5. "Did you go away at the weekend like you planned?" "..... I stayed home and was bored to death."  
a. I wish to      b. I wish I would      c. I wish I had      d. I wish I did
6. If only Jamie ..... so easily.  
a. wouldn't quit      b. wasn't quitting      c. doesn't quit      d. couldn't quit
7. I ..... sleep than miss my French class.  
a. had soon given up      b. wish I would      c. prefer giving up      d. would rather give up

**E. Complete each sentence with one suitable word.**

1. It's ..... time Aunt Jenny realised she's not a kid anymore.
2. I ..... prefer it if you could get me the book in hardback.
3. I really wish I ..... kept more photos from my childhood.
4. Sam ..... as if he were about to cry.
5. I ..... you didn't mind staying in to keep me company tonight.
6. I wish my brother ..... stop lazing around and give me a hand sometimes.
7. If ..... your grandmother could have seen you today. She would have been so proud.
8. ..... you had to make a speech in public. You'd be nervous, wouldn't you?
9. I'd rather ..... report this matter to the police.
10. I really miss Sarah. I wish she ..... be here with us.

