CONDITIONALS AND WISHES REVISION

1 Complete the sentence using the verbs in brackets.

a If Alexander the Great (march) had marched west instead of east, he (conquer) _____ the whole of Europe.

b If more Vikings (go) _____ to North America, the Viking settlements (succeed) _____

c If the ancient Egyptians (build) _____ bigger boats, they (cross) _____ the Atlantic and (land) _____ in America.

d If a storm (not hit) _____ Bartolomeu Dias's ship off the coast of Africa in 1487, they (not arrived) _____ in the Indian Ocean by accident.

e If Cheng Ho and other Chinese explorers (continue) _____ further on their voyages, they (sail) _____ up the west coast of Africa and reached Europe in the early 15th century.

f If Columbus (not read) _____ about Marco Polo's trip to China, he (not try) _____ to sail there by crossing the Atlantic.

g If Columbus (sail) _____ east in 1492, he (reach) _____ China or Japan.

h If the Aztecs (not think) _____ that Cortes and his men were gods, the Spaniards (not conquer) _____ Mexico so easily.

i If Lewis and Clark (not find) _____ a way across America from St Louis to the Pacific in 1806, thousands of settlers (not make) _____ the journey in later years to settle in the central and western parts of North America.

j If Charles Darwin (not take) _____ a voyage to South America between 1831 and 1836, he (not write) _____ his famous book *The Origin of Species*, which argued that living creatures evolved over millions of years.

2 Use the information to make an impossible past conditional sentence which has a result in the present.

a Columbus 1492: 'Don't worry men, I've brought a map with me, so I know exactly where we are. If I hadn't brought a map, we _____ lost!'

b Galileo 1640: 'I've explained my new ideas to the Church, but now I'm in trouble! If I _____, I _____!'

c Marco Polo 1300: 'It's true, I have exaggerated and made up some of the descriptions in the book about my travels. I suppose that's why people don't believe the true things. 'If I _____, perhaps more people _____'

d Mrs Abraham Lincoln, April 1865: 'We went to the theatre last night, and now my poor husband the President is dead, shot by a political opponent. If we _____ he _____ alive today!'

e Leonardo da Vinci, 1518: 'I've done a lot of things in my life, but perhaps I haven't spent enough time on my paintings. I didn't always manage to finish them, I'm afraid. If I _____, more of them _____'

f Napoleon, 1820, in exile on the island of St Helena: 'Looking back, I can see that invading Russia was a mistake. Without that, perhaps I wouldn't have lost the war. If I _____ Russia, perhaps I _____ Emperor of France!'

history

3 Use the information to make an impossible past conditional sentence, beginning as shown. It is not necessary to use all the information.


Isabella of Castile

a The Trojans saw the wooden horse, and decided to take it into Troy. Once it was inside the walls, the Greeks hidden inside the horse came out, opened the gates, and the Greek army captured Troy.
If the Trojans *hadn't taken the wooden horse into Troy*, the Greeks *would not have captured the city*.

b In September 490 BC, an army from Athens and Plataea met the Persian army of Darius I on the Greek coast at Marathon, about 35 km from Athens. It seemed that nothing could stop Darius conquering Greece. However, the Greek army won a total victory, and the Persian army went home.
If the Greeks _____,
Darius and his army _____

c On 10 January 49 BC, Julius Caesar crossed the River Rubicon on the border of Italy with his army. This led to civil war which Caesar won, and so became leader of the Roman state.
If Julius Caesar _____,
he _____

d In 1469, Isabella of Castile married Ferdinand of Aragon. Their marriage combined the two kingdoms and created the kingdom of Spain, which soon became one of the most powerful countries in Europe.
If Isabella _____,
Spain _____

e In September 1066, Duke William of Normandy sailed with an army to England. He believed that he, and not Harold, was the rightful king. Harold marched to meet William but his army was tired after fighting a battle in the north against the Vikings. William won the battle that followed, and became king of England.
If Harold's army _____,
William _____
_____

GLOSSARY

4 Complete the *wish*-sentence with the verb in brackets.

a What on earth is the answer to this problem! (know) I *wish I knew the answer to this problem.*
b Unfortunately, I haven't got a calculator. (have) I _____
c The trouble is, I don't really understand the problem. (understand) I _____
d And my teacher never explains things to me. (explain) _____
e I think I'd prefer to be in a different class. (be) _____
f In fact, I'd rather do French instead. (do) _____
g I love France – it would be great to live there! (live) _____
h But at the moment I have to my homework! (have to do) _____

5 Complete the *wish*-sentence with the information provided.

a Juliet: 'Considering what happened later, meeting Romeo was a mistake.'
I *wish I hadn't met* him!

b Christopher Columbus: 'Sailing to America was a mistake, perhaps, and it would have been better to stay at home!'
I _____ at home!

c Harry Potter: 'Learning to be a wizard has turned out to be rather dangerous. Deciding to go to a wizard school was a mistake!'
I _____ school !

d Marco Polo: 'It was great being in China. Perhaps it would have been better to stay there, and not come home to Italy.'
I wish _____ China.

e Newton: 'Actually the story of the apple falling on my head is true, and I can tell you it really hurt! Sitting under the apple tree was a big mistake!'
I _____ tree !

f Helen of Troy: 'I didn't really like Paris very much. Running away with him was a mistake.'
I _____ with him !

g Dr Frankenstein: 'This monster is causing a lot of trouble. Making him was a mistake.'
I _____ him !

h Archimedes: 'Jumping out of my bath and running down the street shouting 'I've found it!' was a great idea. But it was mistake not to put some clothes on first!'
I _____ clothes on !

6 Rewrite the sentence as a complaint, using *wish* with *would* or *wouldn't*. Use contractions.

a *You never hand your work in on time!* — *I wish you'd hand your work in on time* !
b You always make so many mistakes! — I _____ !
c You always drop litter on the floor! — I _____ !
d You never pay attention! — I _____ !
e You always talk during the test! — I _____ !
f You never listen to what I'm saying! — I _____ !
g You always interrupt people! — I _____ !
h You always throw things across the room! — I _____ !
i You never behave! — I _____ !
j You always make so much noise! — I _____ !

7 Complete the text with the verbs in brackets.


A sloth

Sloths live in trees and eat mainly leaves, twigs and fruit. In fact, if you **a** (be) *were* a sloth, you **b** (spend) _____ most of your life hanging upside down from a tree. This is the safest place for sloths. If a sloth **c** (stay) _____ completely still, predators **d** (not realize) _____ it is there, because it has green algae living on its skin, and it is difficult to see. Sloths move very slowly on the ground, but if they **e** (go) _____ in water, they **f** (swim) _____ extremely well. However, they have a low body temperature, and if they **g** (remain) _____ too long in hot sunlight, they **h** (die) _____. Sloths are not large animals, growing to about a metre in length. On the other hand, if you **i** (be) _____ in North America 20,000 years ago, you **j** (see) _____ a giant ground sloth, as large as an elephant! These giant sloths died out thousands of years ago. Modern sloths live in the rainforest of South America, and they are in danger, like many rainforest animals. If human beings **k** (continue) _____ to destroy the rain forest, sloths **l** (become) _____ extinct.

GLOSSARY

EXTENSION ACTIVITY

1 What would your life have been like, if you had lived a hundred years ago? Write five sentences.
2 Write a list of wishes about things you want to change about yourself.