Unreal conditional	
If Clause: Simple Past	Result Clause: would (not) + infinitive verb.
If Mia had money, If she were* rich,	she would live in a palace. she wouldn't live in a cottage.
If Mia didn't have money, If she weren't rich,	she wouldn't live in a palace. she would live in a cottage.

*with the verb be, use were for all subjects.

Complete this article from a popular psychology magazine. Use the correct form of the verbs.



Marty Hijab has always wanted to invite his whole family over for the holidays, but his apartment is small, and his family is very large. "If I (invite) invited them all for dinner, there (not be) _____ enough room for everyone to sit down," he told a friend. If Marty (be) _____ a complainer, he (moan) _____ about the size of his apartment and spend the holiday at his parents' house. But Marty is a problem solver. This year he is hosting an open house. People can drop in at different times during the day, and there will be room for everyone.

"If life (be) _____ a fairy tale, we (can/wish) _____" problems away," noted therapist Joel Grimes. What complainers are really saying is, 'If I (have) _____a magical solution, I (not have to deal) _____ with this myself.' I wish it (be) _____that easy ," says Grimes. He gives an example of a very wealthy client who complains about his limited time for his family. "He's waiting for a miracle to give him the time he needs. But if he (think) _____ about the problem creatively, he (can / find) _____the time," says Grimes.

Even the rich have limited time, money, and space. If complainers (realize) _____ this, then they (undesrtand) _____ that there will always be problems. They could then stop complaining and look for solutions. Marty is a student. If he (insist) _____ on a bigger apartment for his party, he (may/have to wait) _____ for years before inviting his family over. Instead, he is creatively solving his problems right now.

There's an old saying: "If wishes (be) _____ horses, then beggars (can/ride) _____ ." But wishes aren't horses. We have to learn to create our own good fortune and not wait for a genie with three wishes to come along and solve our problems.