

# First Certificate Language Practice

## Wish / If only

Read the theory and solve the activities.

### 1 Underline the most suitable verb form in each sentence.

- 1 I wish Peter *doesn't live* / *didn't live* / *wouldn't live* so far away from the town centre. We'll have to take a taxi.
- 2 I feel rather cold. I wish I *brought* / *had brought* my pullover with me.
- 3 What a pity! I wish we *don't have to* / *didn't have to* / *wouldn't have to* leave.
- 4 I wish you *tell* / *told* / *had told* me about the test. I haven't done any revision.
- 5 I wish the people next door *hadn't made* / *wouldn't make* / *couldn't make* so much noise. I can't hear myself think!
- 6 Darling, I love you so much! I wish we *are* / *had been* / *would be* / *could be* together always!
- 7 I'm sorry I missed your birthday party. I really wish I *come* / *came* / *had come* / *would come*.
- 8 I like my new boss but I wish she *gave* / *would give* / *could give* me some more responsibility.
- 9 Having a lovely time in Brighton. I wish you *are* / *were* / *had been* here.
- 10 This car was a complete waste of money. I wish I *didn't buy* / *hadn't bought* it.

### 2 Put each verb in brackets into a suitable verb form.

- 1 This train journey seems endless! I wish we (go) .....~~had gone~~..... by car.
- 2 I wish I (have) ..... the money to buy some new clothes, but I can't afford any at the moment.
- 3 I wish the government (do) ..... something about the pollution here.
- 4 I'm getting really soaked! I wish I (not forget) ..... my umbrella.
- 5 I wish you (not do) ..... that! It's a really annoying habit.
- 6 That was a lovely meal, but I wish I (not eat) ..... so much.
- 7 I wish I (study) ..... harder for my exams. I'm not going to pass.
- 8 I wish you (not leave) ..... your dirty shoes in your bedroom!
- 9 I'm afraid I have no idea where Pat has gone. I wish I (know) .....
- 10 I really enjoyed our trip to the theatre. I wish we (go) ..... more often.

### 3 Underline the most suitable verb form in each sentence.

- 1 Sorry to ask you, but I'd rather you *pay* / *paid* me in advance.
- 2 Imagine you *live* / *lived* in New York. How would you feel?
- 3 If only I *have* / *had* / *would have* a screwdriver with me.
- 4 If you want to catch the last train, it's time you *leave* / *left*.
- 5 I'd rather you *don't* / *didn't* tell anyone about our conversation.
- 6 I feel really tired. If only I *didn't stay up* / *hadn't stayed up* so late last night.
- 7 If you don't mind, I'd sooner you *practised* / *had practised* / *would practise* your violin somewhere else.
- 8 It's high time you *learn* / *learned* to look after yourself.
- 9 Jean thinks that everyone likes her. If only she *knows* / *knew* what people say behind her back!
- 10 I'd rather we *stay* / *stayed* at home this Christmas for a change.

**5 Put each verb in brackets into a suitable verb form.**

- 1 What can we do to get in touch with Robert? If only we (know) ~~know~~..... his phone number.
- 2 Come on children! It's time you (be) ..... in bed.
- 3 Actually I'd rather you (not smoke) ..... in here.
- 4 Suppose you (see) ..... a ghost. What would you do?
- 5 I'm so annoyed about breaking my leg. If only I (be) ..... more careful!
- 6 It's high time you (start) ..... working more seriously.
- 7 I'd rather you (not put) ..... your coffee on top of my book.
- 8 I've no idea where we are! If only we (have) ..... a map.
- 9 Your hair is rather long. Don't you think it's time you (have) ..... a haircut?
- 10 Visiting museums is interesting, but I'd sooner we (go) ..... swimming.

**6 Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given. Do not change the word given. You must use between two and five words, including the word given.**

- 1 It would be nice to be able to play the piano.  
**could**  
I wish I ..... could play ..... the piano.
- 2 Please don't eat in the classroom.  
**you**  
I'd rather ..... classroom.
- 3 I think we should leave now.  
**we**  
I think it's ..... left.
- 4 What a pity we ate all the food.  
**only**  
If ..... all the food!
- 5 It's a shame we don't have a video.  
**wish**  
I ..... a video.
- 6 Don't shout all the time, it's so annoying!  
**wouldn't**  
I ..... shout all the time!
- 7 I don't want you to buy me a present.  
**sooner**  
I'd ..... buy me a present.
- 8 I don't like being so tall.  
**wish**  
I ..... so tall.
- 9 We ought to start work now.  
**started**  
It's ..... work.
- 10 I regret not going to university.  
**had**  
I ..... to university.