

# 15 What would you do?

## 1 SNAPSHOT

The Morning News

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Stories of Honesty

Businessman returns \$750,000 to owner – and is thanked with a brief phone call  
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Athlete admits to cheating – confesses that he “just wanted to win”  
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Taxi driver returns computer – drives miles to give laptop back to passenger  
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Golfer admits using illegal ball by mistake – but is still disqualified from game  
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Student uses detective work to find owner of gold jewelry  
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Fan returns soccer star’s lucky T-shirt – player gives him \$1,000 reward  
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Sources: [www.geardiary.com](http://www.geardiary.com); <http://sports.aspn.go.com>; Los Angeles Times

Do you know any other stories like these?  
Have you ever found anything valuable? What did you do?  
Do you think that people who return lost things should get a reward?

## 2 CONVERSATION If I found \$750,000,...

**A** Listen and practice.

Phil: Look at this. Some guy found \$750,000! He returned it, and the owner simply thanked him with a phone call.  
Pat: You're kidding! If I found \$750,000, I wouldn't return it so fast.  
Phil: Why? What would you do?  
Pat: Well, I'd go out and start spending it. I could buy lots of nice clothes and jewelry.  
Phil: Someone might also find out about it. And then you could go to jail.  
Pat: Hmm. You've got a point there.

**B** Listen to the rest of the conversation.  
What would Phil do if he found \$750,000?



### 3 GRAMMAR FOCUS

#### Unreal conditional sentences with if clauses

##### Imaginary situation (simple past)

If I **found** \$750,000,

##### Possible consequence

(would, could, or might + verb)

I **would spend** it.

I **wouldn't return** it so fast.

I **could buy** lots of nice clothes and jewelry.

I **might go** to the police.

What **would** you **do if** you **found** \$750,000?



**A** Complete these conversations. Then compare with a partner.

- A: If you ..... (have) three months to travel, where ..... you ..... (go)?  
B: Oh, that's easy! I ..... (fly) to Europe. I've always wanted to go there.
- A: If your doctor ..... (tell) you to get more exercise, which sport ..... you ..... (choose)?  
B: I'm not sure, but I ..... (go) jogging two or three times a week.
- A: What ..... you ..... (do) if your teacher ..... (give) you an A by mistake?  
B: Of course I ..... (say) something right away.
- A: ..... you ..... (break) into your house if you ..... (lock) yourself out?  
B: If I ..... (not have) another key, I ..... (ask) a neighbor for help.
- A: If your friend ..... (want) to marry someone you didn't trust, ..... you ..... (say) something?  
B: No, I ..... (not say) anything. I ..... (mind) my own business.
- A: What ..... you ..... (do) if you ..... (see) your favorite movie star on the street?  
B: I ..... (not be) shy! I ..... (ask) for a photo and an autograph.

**B PAIR WORK** Take turns asking the questions in part A. Answer with your own information.

### 4 LISTENING Tough predicaments

**A** Listen to three people talk about predicaments. Number them from 1 to 3 in the order they are discussed.

| Predicament                                                           | Suggestions |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Two people were fighting in the street.      | .....       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> A friend lost all her money while traveling. | .....       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> A friend has a serious shopping problem.     | .....       |

**B** Listen again. What suggestions do the people give for each predicament? Take notes. Which is the best suggestion?

## 5 INTERCHANGE 15 Do the right thing!

What would you do in some difficult situations? Go to Interchange 15 on page 130.

## 6 WORD POWER Opposites

**A** Find nine pairs of opposites in this list. Complete the chart. Then compare with a partner.

|          |          |         |        |          |          |
|----------|----------|---------|--------|----------|----------|
| ✓ accept | borrow   | dislike | find   | lose     | remember |
| admit    | deny     | divorce | forget | marry    | save     |
| agree    | disagree | enjoy   | lend   | ✓ refuse | spend    |

|        |   |        |       |   |       |       |   |       |
|--------|---|--------|-------|---|-------|-------|---|-------|
| accept | ≠ | refuse | ..... | ≠ | ..... | ..... | ≠ | ..... |
| .....  | ≠ | .....  | ..... | ≠ | ..... | ..... | ≠ | ..... |
| .....  | ≠ | .....  | ..... | ≠ | ..... | ..... | ≠ | ..... |

**B PAIR WORK** Choose four pairs of opposites. Write sentences using each pair.

I can never save money because I spend it all on clothes.

## 7 PERSPECTIVES I felt terrible.

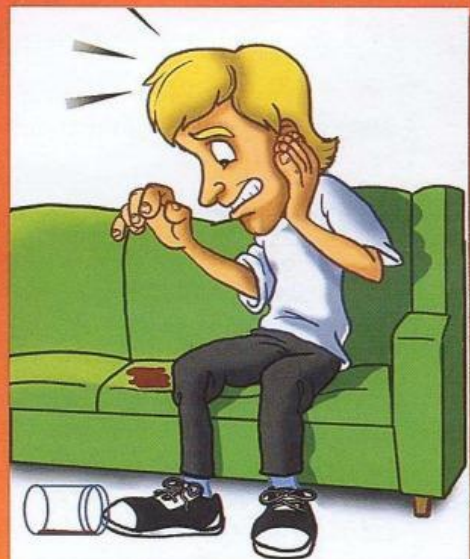
**A** Listen to people talk about recent predicaments. Then check (✓) the best suggestion for each one.

“What a disaster! I spilled juice on my parents’ new couch. They weren’t home, so I just turned the cushions over. What should I have done?”

- ☐ You should have told them about it.
- ☐ You should have cleaned it immediately.
- ☐ You should have offered to buy them a new couch.

“I forgot my best friend’s birthday. I felt terrible, so I sent him a text to apologize. What would you have done?”

- ☐ I would have called him right away.
- ☐ I would have sent him a nice birthday present.
- ☐ I would have invited him out for a meal.



**B PAIR WORK** Compare with a partner. Do you agree with each other?

## 8 GRAMMAR FOCUS

### Past modals

Use **would have** or **should have** + **past participle** to give opinions or suggestions about actions in the past.

What **should** I **have done**?

You **should have told** them about it.

You **shouldn't have hidden** it.

What **would** you **have done**?

I **would have called** him.

I **wouldn't have sent** him a text.

**A** Complete these conversations. Then practice with a partner.

- A: The cashier gave me too much change. What should I have ..... (do)?  
B: You should have ..... (say) something. You shouldn't have ..... (take) the money.
- A: I ignored an email from someone I don't like. What would you have ..... (do)?  
B: I would have ..... (reply) to the person. It just takes a minute!
- A: I was watching a good movie when my phone rang. What should I have ..... (do)?  
B: You should have ..... (take) the call and ..... (tell) the person you'd call back later.
- A: We left all our trash at the campsite. What would you have ..... (do)?  
B: I would have ..... (take) it with me and ..... (throw) it away later.

**B** Read the situations below. What would have been the best thing to do? Choose suggestions. Then compare with a partner.

#### Situations

- The teacher borrowed my favorite book and spilled coffee all over it. ....
- I saw a classmate cheating on an exam. So I wrote her an email about it. ....
- A friend of mine always has messy hair. So I gave him a comb for his birthday. ....
- I hit someone's car when I was leaving a parking lot. Luckily, no one saw me. ....
- My aunt gave me a wool sweater. I can't wear wool, so I gave it back. ....

#### Suggestions

- You should have spoken to him about it.
- I would have spoken to the teacher about it.
- I would have waited for the owner to return.
- I wouldn't have said anything.
- You should have warned her not to do it again.
- You should have left a note for the owner.
- I would have told her that I prefer something else.
- You should have exchanged it for something else.

**C GROUP WORK** Make another suggestion for each situation in part B.

## 9 PRONUNCIATION Reduction of have

**A** Listen and practice. Notice how **have** is reduced in these sentences.

What would you <sup>/əv/</sup> have done?

I would <sup>/əv/</sup> have told the truth.

**B PAIR WORK** Practice the conversations in Exercise 8, part A, again. Use the reduced form of **have**.

## 10 LISTENING *I'm calling about...*

**A** Listen to people calling Dr. Hilda, a counselor on a radio talk show. Complete the chart.

| Problem        | What the caller did |
|----------------|---------------------|
| Caller 1 ..... | .....               |
| Caller 2 ..... | .....               |
| Caller 3 ..... | .....               |



**B** Listen again. According to Dr. Hilda, what should each caller have done?

**C GROUP WORK** Do you agree with Dr. Hilda? What would you have done?



## 11 SPEAKING *I shouldn't have...*

**A** Look at the five situations below. Think about the past month and write down an example for each situation.

1. something you shouldn't have done
2. something you should have done
3. something you shouldn't have said
4. somewhere you shouldn't have gone
5. someone you should have emailed or called

**B GROUP WORK** Talk about each situation in part A.

"I spent \$50 on a T-shirt. I shouldn't have bought it. I don't even like it now."



## 12 WRITING *A letter to an advice columnist*

Write a letter to an advice columnist about a real or imaginary problem. Put your letters on the wall and choose one to write a reply to.

|                                                                            |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Dear Dr. Hilda,                                                            |
| I let a friend borrow my laptop, and now it's not working very well. I     |
| took it to a repair shop, and they said it would be very expensive to fix. |
| When I asked my friend to help me pay for the repair, she refused. Now she |
| won't even speak to me! What did I do wrong? What should I have done?      |
| Thanks for your help!                                                      |
| Kevin                                                                      |

The Advice Circle

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Skim the three posts on the message board. What problem does each writer have?

[Health](#)
[Parenting](#)
[Education](#)
[Lifestyle](#)
[Relationships](#)



**Terry**

Someone told me that my brother's girlfriend was dating another guy. I told my brother and he then decided to confront her with the story. They had an argument and, although she denied the rumor, they broke up. Now it turns out that the rumor wasn't true, and my brother isn't speaking to me.

Posts: 11



**Pixie**

You really learned a lesson, didn't you? You shouldn't have listened to gossip. Now you have to repair the damage. Apologize and hope that he will forgive and forget!

Posts: 14

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**Lola**

Don't blame yourself. You sincerely tried your best. But, frankly, I wouldn't have acted so quickly. I would have waited to see what happened. Try talking to him – and good luck!

Posts: 7

[Hide Post](#)



**Linda**

My son is 23 and still lives at home. He finished college last year, but I really don't think he's trying to get a job. Meanwhile, I've been cooking his meals and doing his laundry.

Posts: 21



**Too Bad**

You're making it too easy for him to stay home. Be firm and tell him he has to find a job and get his own place. He's old enough to take care of himself.

Posts: 17

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**Poodle**

You're his mother, and family is family. It's hard to find a job if you have no experience. And don't you have to cook for yourself? Don't complain about your son.

Posts: 3

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**Robin**

I saw my friend's brother at the beach with some of his friends. It wasn't a holiday, so I think he was skipping school. Should I tell my friend?

Posts: 15



**Zeb**

I would suggest you keep your mouth shut. Let them work things out for themselves. If you say something, you could damage your friendship with both of them.

Posts: 27

[Hide Post](#)



**Speedy**

What are you waiting for? You should tell your friend right now, and tell her mom, too! The only way to solve your dilemma is to be 100% honest.

Posts: 10

[Hide Post](#)

**A** Read the message board. Match the name and the advice.

- |                  |                    |
|------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Pixie .....   | a. Be honest.      |
| 2. Lola .....    | b. Say nothing.    |
| 3. Too Bad ..... | c. Be firm.        |
| 4. Poodle .....  | d. Apologize.      |
| 5. Zeb .....     | e. Talk to him.    |
| 6. Speedy .....  | f. Don't complain. |

**B** Find the words in *italics* below in the message board. Then match each one with its meaning.

- |                                    |                                    |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| ..... 1. <i>confront</i>           | a. make a fresh start              |
| ..... 2. <i>forgive and forget</i> | b. strong and determined           |
| ..... 3. <i>firm</i>               | c. a difficult problem             |
| ..... 4. <i>dilemma</i>            | d. discuss in a strong, direct way |

**C PAIR WORK** Which advice do you agree or disagree with? What advice would you give?

What would you do? ■ 105