

THEME 9

Talking about imaginary situations

We use Second Conditional sentences to talk about unreal or imaginary situations that are not likely to happen in the present or the future.

if- clause	main clause
If + the Past Simple	would/could + base form
If you were more careful,	you wouldn't make so many mistakes.

If I were a superhero, I would protect all the people in the world from the wicked.

We can use *were* instead of *was* in the if-clause of second conditional sentences.

If I had superpowers, I would use them to help people.

If I could fly, I wouldn't be late for my appointments.

You would lose some weight if you ate less bread.

If I had some free time, I'd travel abroad with my family.

If Tony were older, he could vote.

Expressing wishes

We use the Past Simple after the verb *wish* when we want to make a wish about a present or future situation (when we want the situation to be different).

I wish I were taller.

I wish we lived in a big city.

I wish I were a superhero.

I wish I could fly.

I wish I could speak German.

I wish I didn't have to get up so early.

I wish I had a lot of money.

We can use *were* instead of *was* in these sentences as well.

A. Use the correct form of the verbs in brackets to complete these sentences.

- If I (win) the lottery, I (buy) a villa.
- Where you (go) if you (have) a week off?
- What you (do) if you (find) a wallet in the street?
- If I (be) very rich, I (donate) a lot of money to charities.
- What you (change) if you (be) the headmaster of your school for one day?
- Which country you (choose) if you (have) the chance to buy a house there?
- If my father (not/ work) here, he (not/ get) so tired.

B. Read the sentences below and make a wish for each situation.

- I want to learn to play the violin very well.
I wish
- I don't have a laptop, but I'd like one.
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- I'm unhappy because I'm not fit.
.....
- I want to start scuba diving, but we live far away from the coast.
.....
- My room is so small.
.....
- I'd like to go on holiday, but I have to work.
.....
- My hair is too curly. I'm not happy about it.
.....
- I want to be more confident.
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