

Wishes & Regrets



Name _____

Date _____

We use **wish** to talk about things we'd like to be different. The structure changes with the meaning. Read each situation, then use the verb in brackets to complete the sentence with the right **wish** form.

A Wishes for the present

TIP wish + past simple — *I wish I had more time.*

1. My phone is so slow. I wish I _____ a newer one. (*have*)
2. I'm the shortest player on the team. I wish I _____ taller. (*be*)
3. I wish my little brother _____ so noisy when I'm trying to study. (*not / be*)
4. We never go anywhere exciting at the weekend. I wish we _____ in a big city. (*live*)
5. I left question 5 blank. I wish I _____ the answer. (*know*)

B Wishes for abilities

TIP wish + could + verb — *I wish I could drive.*

1. I love music. I wish I _____ the piano like my cousin. (*play*)
2. I wish I _____ Japanese so I could watch anime without subtitles. (*speak*)
3. My drawings are terrible. I wish I _____ as well as you. (*draw*)
4. I'm the only one in my friend group who can't swim. I wish I _____. (*swim*)
5. I always forget people's names at parties. I wish I _____ them. (*remember*)

C Wishes expressing complaint

TIP wish + would / wouldn't — *I wish you would listen.*

1. I wish my neighbours _____ their music down at night — I can never sleep. (*turn*)
2. I wish you _____ borrowing my charger without asking! (*stop*)
3. My brother is so messy. I wish he _____ his dirty plates in my room. (*not / leave*)

4. It's been raining all week. I wish it _____! (*stop*)
5. I wish people _____ during the film at the cinema. (*not / talk*)

D Wishes for the past (regrets)

TIP wish + past perfect — *I wish I had studied.*

1. I failed the test. I wish I _____ more the night before. (*study*)
2. I wish I _____ those mean things to my best friend yesterday. (*not / say*)
3. We missed the bus. I wish we _____ home earlier. (*leave*)
4. I'm completely soaked. I wish I _____ my umbrella. (*bring*)
5. I spent all my money on games. I wish I _____ some for the concert. (*save*)

E Mixed practice

TIP choose the structure — present · ability · complaint · past.

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| 1. I failed my driving theory test. I wish I _____ the road signs properly. (<i>revise</i>) | 6. This town is so quiet. I wish there _____ more to do. (<i>be</i>) |
| 2. I'm always tired in class. I wish I _____ such a night owl. (<i>not / be</i>) | 7. I wish the people upstairs _____ so loudly every morning. (<i>not / stamp</i>) |
| 3. I wish my brother _____ before coming into my room! (<i>knock</i>) | 8. I wish I _____ in tune; I'd love to join the choir. (<i>sing</i>) |
| 4. I wish I _____ — then no more instant noodles! (<i>cook</i>) | 9. We got lost for hours. I wish we _____ a map. (<i>bring</i>) |
| 5. I wish I _____ those photos; the only ones from the trip. (<i>not / delete</i>) | 10. I wish my phone battery _____ longer; it dies by lunch. (<i>last</i>) |