

Grammar



Wishes and regrets

1 Look at this question from the interview. Then complete gaps 1–7 with the correct form of the verbs in brackets.

Do you ever wish that the whole thing wasn't so over the top?

- 1 Do you wish you (meet) me earlier?
- 2 I wish I (have) more time to spend with my family but I haven't.
- 3 I wish (inform) you of our decision.
- 4 If only that (be) true!
- 5 If only the photographers (give) us a bit more privacy.
- 6 I wish you (ask) such personal questions. I'm finding it embarrassing.
- 7 If only I (know) what it would be like before I started this job!

2 Look at this conversation and change *would rather* to *would prefer*. Make any other necessary changes.

A: Would you rather watch an interview with someone, or read it in a magazine?

B: Well, I think I'd rather see the person, because when they're asked an awkward question, you can see if they'd rather not answer it.

A: I don't like it when people ask awkward questions. For example, why did this interviewer ask about Michelle Obama's personal life?

B: You mean you'd rather she'd focused more on questions about politics?



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3 Write the correct form of start.

- 1 It's time for us the interview.
- 2 It's time we the interview.

4 Complete this blog extract.

Many people wish that magazines (1) (have) more in-depth interviews with real people. They always seem to focus on the same things – skeletons in the cupboard or a celebrity's love life. They would rather (2) (read) about people's beliefs, aims and ambitions. According to some, it is high time magazines (3) (wake up) to the fact that the general public has had enough of media invasion into people's privacy. If only I (4) (be born) with the necessary talent and expertise, I would start a magazine for the company where I work. It really is time for me (5) (do) something instead of complaining about other magazines.

THINK IT,
WANT IT,
GET IT