



## CENTRO INTERESCOLAR DE LÍNGUAS DE SOBRADINHO

Student's name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_ Level: 3D 2<sup>nd</sup> semester 2020

### I WISH/I ONLY

#### Wishes about The Present

We use wish with past Tense forms (simple and continuous) to express regret about present situations:

- I wish I was taller = (I'm not very tall)
- I wish I was going with you = (but I'm not)

"I wish you were more helpful. = (you are not).

"I wish I were" can replace "I wish I was."

**NOTE :** If you want to be more grammatically correct, "I wish I were" is the best choice. Therefore, whenever taking a test, writing a composition or in any other more formal situation, for instance, prefer to use "were" :

✓ "I wish I were taller."

We use wish with could to express a wish for a present situation to be different when talking about ability or possibility. Would is not used to talk about ability or possibility :

- ✓ I wish I could use a computer well.
- ✗ I wish I would tell her about it.
- ✓ I wish I could tell her about it.

Therefore, we use the main verb in the Past Tense (Past Simple or Past Continuous) every time we talk about Present Regrets with I wish and If Only sentences:

I wish I knew the answer. (= I don't know)  
I wish I was / were better at sports. (= I'm not)  
I wish I was / were going with you. (= I'm not)  
I wish I could give you an answer. (= I can't)

#### Wishes about The Future

We use wish with would to say how we would like somebody to behave in the future. In these situations, we don't use the infinitive form "to + verb" or "will" :  
**NOTE:** after the verb "stop" an "-ing" verb form follows to indicate that action is to be finished.

- ✗ I wish you to stop talking.  
✓ I wish you would stop \*talking.
- ✗ I wish that they will stop arguing.  
I wish they would stop \*arguing.

We can also use this pattern in situations that do not involve people:  
"I wish this car would go faster".

### Wishes about The Past

We use **wish** with **the \*Past Perfect ( "had + past participle") or \*could have + past participle** when we have **Regrets about the past**:

"I wish I **\*hadn't taken** your advice." (= but I **did**)  
"I wish she **\*could have come**." (= but she **couldn't**)

### If only

**If only** can be **more emphatic** than **I wish**. The verb forms after "**if only**" are the same as the patterns with "**I wish**".

**If only I had more money!** (= but I **don't**)  
**If only I was going on holiday with you!** (=but I'm **not**)  
**If only you were here.** (= but you're **not**)  
**If only the sun would come out!** (=but it **won't**)  
**If only you could be here!** (= but you **can't**)  
**If only I'd listened to you!** (=but I **didn't**)  
**If only he could have explained!** (=but he **wasn't able to**)

Now complete the following sentences with the correct form of the verb in parentheses. Some sentences will require a negative form. **Use contractions in the negative forms.**

1. I wish you  **(stop)** using your cell phone while I am talking to you!
2. Michael wishes he  **(have)** more money so he could buy a new car.
3. Harry is always late. If only he  **(show up)** on time for a change!
4. I wish vacation  **(come)** so we could go to the beach.
5. Of course Susan wishes she  **(come)** with us to Venice, but she has to stay here in Dallas.
6. I wish we  **(go)** to the soccer game on Saturday but we're visiting my uncle.
7. I wish I  **(be)** a better singer so that I could sing her a beautiful song.
8. I wish you  **(keep)** your mouth shut yesterday. Now Clara knows the truth.
9. I wish you  **(do)** that. It **gets on my nerves!**
10. If only I  **(lose)** all my money. Now I'm **broke!**