

WISH & UNREAL PAST STRUCTURES

1 Complete the sentences with the correct forms of the verbs in brackets.

1. She didn't come to the meeting. She wishes she (come) to the meeting.
2. He doesn't pay us much. We'd rather he (pay) us more money.
3. I wish he (stop) forgetting his mobile phone. It's so irritating!
4. I wish I (not forget) about your birthday last year.
5. Dan hasn't brushed his teeth yet. It's high time he (brush) his teeth.
6. She wishes she (not spend) so much time sunbathing yesterday.
7. I can't play any instruments. I wish I (play) the guitar.
8. Do you want to go shopping with me? I'd rather (stay at home) than (go out).
9. I wish I (live) in the city. If I (live) in the city, I'd go to the cinema more often.
10. I advise you to take some medicine. You had better (take) some medicine.
11. I haven't washed the carpet for weeks. It's time (wash) it.
12. I prefer (sing) to (dance).
13. It's high time we (forbid) such demonstrations.
14. I'd rather she (not wear) my dress last night. She's ruined it.
15. I would prefer (pay) in cash rather than by credit card.
16. Tim acts as if he (be) a famous scientist rather than a clever 14-year-old.

II Paraphrase the sentences using unreal past expressions, 'wish' or 'if only':

1. It's a pity I didn't insure the stereo.

If only

2. You should start preparing now.

It's time you

3. You'd think she is a film star.

She behaves as though

4. I wasn't at my grandparents' last week.

I wish

5. I don't want to interfere in their business.

I'd rather

6. I don't have any relatives abroad.

I wish I

7. He leaves his clothes everywhere.

I wish he