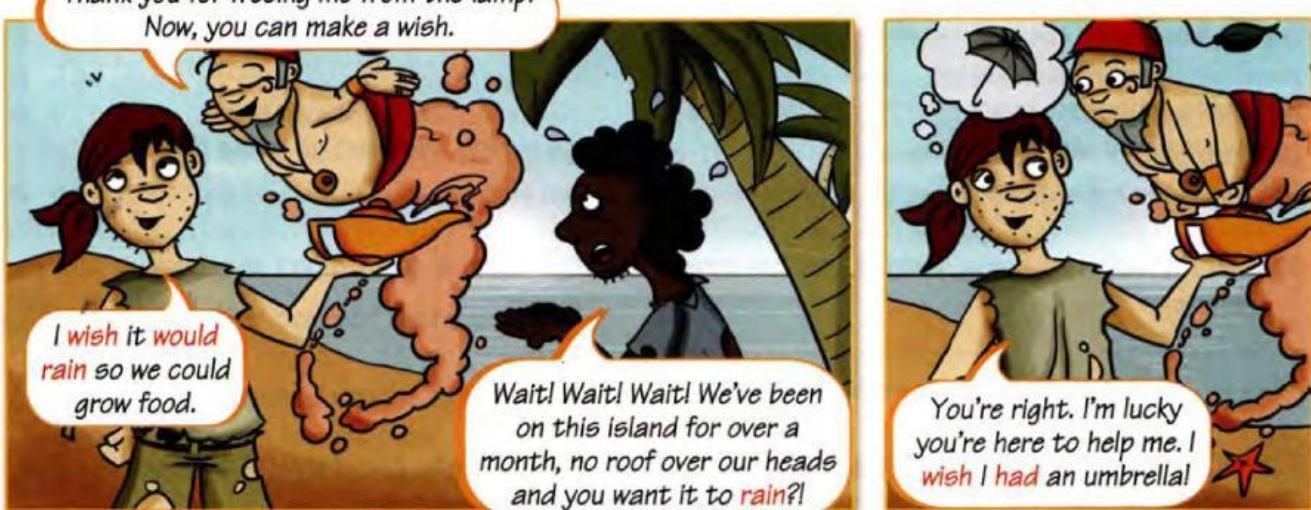




16 Listen and repeat. Then act out.



	Form	Use
wish / if only (regret about the present)	+ past simple / past continuous	regret about a present situation which we want to be different
<i>I wish / If only I were/was more patient. (But I'm not patient.)</i>		
wish / if only (wish / regret about the present)	+ subject + could + bare infinitive	wish or regret in the present
<i>I wish / If only I could ride a bicycle. (But I can't.)</i>		
wish / if only (wish for a future change)	+ subject + would + bare infinitive (a. 'wish' and 'would' should have different subjects. We never say: <i>I wish I would</i> ; <i>He wishes he would</i> , etc. b. <i>wish + inanimate subject + would</i> is used to express the speaker's lack of hope or disappointment.)	wish for a future change unlikely to happen or wish to express dissatisfaction; polite request implying dissatisfaction or lack of hope
<i>I wish he would study for his exams. (But I don't think he will. – wish for a future change unlikely to happen)</i> <i>I wish Jane would go to university. (Jane has refused to do so and I'm unhappy about it. – dissatisfaction)</i> <i>I wish it would stop snowing. (It's unlikely to stop snowing but I wish it would.)</i> <i>I wish you would be quiet. (I don't expect you will be quiet but I'm asking anyway. – request implying lack of hope)</i>		
wish / if only (regret about the past)	+ past perfect	regret that something happened or didn't happen in the past
<i>I wish / If only I had gone to Ann's party last night. (But I didn't.)</i>		
In wishes, we go one tense back. This means that we use past simple in the present and the past perfect in the past. <i>I'm poor. I wish I were rich. (past) / I lost my watch yesterday. I wish I hadn't lost it. (past)</i>		
After <i>wish</i> and <i>if only</i> we can use <i>were</i> instead of <i>was</i> in all persons. <i>I wish / If only I was/were taller.</i>		

13 Match the captions 1–6 to the pictures A–F. Then rewrite the statements as wishes.



1 "I'm sorry. I didn't see the red light."
I wish I had seen the red light.

2 "The lectures are so boring."
I wish

3 "I'd prefer to be out with my friends."
I wish

4 "I'm so sad I failed my test."
I wish

5 "She gives me so much work to do."
I wish

6 "I can't understand what he's saying."
I wish

14 Using the bold type in the sentences, write wishes as in the example:

1 You are leaving for the airport. **You can't find your passport.**
You say: "I wish I could find my passport."

2 You live in the suburbs. **You prefer the city centre.**
You say:

3 **You argued with your friend yesterday.** Today she is upset.
You say:

4 **You didn't clean your bedroom** and your mother is angry.
You say:

5 You want to go on holiday but **you can't afford it.**
You say:

15 Put the verbs in brackets into the correct tense.

Dear Auntie Claire,

I feel so unhappy. I wish we 1) hadn't moved. (**not/move**) to London. If only Mum and Dad 2) (**give**) it some more thought before they decided to come here. Everything is so different. First of all, it's always cold and wet. I wish it 3) (**not/keep**) raining all the time. Secondly, I really miss my old friends. I wish my new classmates 4) (**be**) friendlier – it would make things a lot easier. Finally, I feel really alone. If only there 5) (**be**) someone here I could talk to.

Do you think there is anything I can do to make myself feel better? Please help.

Thanks for any advice,
Emma

7

Conditionals – Wishes

16 Put the verbs in brackets into the correct tense.

1 A: If only the sun ... *would come* ... (**come**) out.
B: Cheer up. I don't think it's going to rain much longer.

2 A: I wish you (**tidy**) your room.
B: I'm busy with my homework right now. I'll do it later.

3 A: I wish I (**not/lend**) Bill my laptop.
B: You mean he hasn't returned it to you yet?

4 A: I wish I (**know**) how to use a computer.
B: Don't worry. I'll show you.

5 A: If only I (**learn**) to ride a bike when I was younger.
B: Don't worry. You can learn now!

6 A: Is Layla going with you to LA?
B: No, she wishes she (**come**) but she can't get time off work.

7 A: If only Jessica (**talk**) to me.
B: She's still upset. Give her time.

8 A: If only I (**not/leave**) the gate open.
B: Don't worry. I'm sure we'll find your dog.

9 A: Your teacher says she wishes you (**pay**) more attention in class, Alex.
B: OK Mum. I'll try.

10 A: I wish you (**be**) here, Anna. I feel so sad!
B: Cheer up! I'll be with you tomorrow.

11 A: If only I (**be/accepted**) into Oxford University.
B: Don't be sad. You are going to love it at Glasgow University.

12 A: I wish the children (**stop**) shouting.
B: I'll tell them to be quiet.

17 Read the speech bubbles and make sentences as in the example:

1

It's snowing outside. I'm cold. I should have worn a hat and some gloves.

I wish ... *I had worn a hat and some gloves...*
If I had worn a hat and some gloves, I wouldn't...
...be cold now.

2

I'm late for school. I should have got up earlier.

I wish
If

3

I can't buy a bicycle. I didn't save any money.

I wish
If

4

I burnt my finger. I shouldn't have touched the cooker.

I wish
If

5

I can't answer the questions. I should have studied for the test.

I wish
If