8 Conditionals / Wishes / Unreal Past

20 **Put the verbs in capitals into the correct form.**

Dear Ben,

Well, it's been two weeks since I started living in my new house, but I already wish my family 1) ....*hadn't moved*..... here. I honestly thought I would enjoy the quiet life of the village, but now I wish we 2) ..... to our old house in the city. The problem is it's just so quiet here. If only there 3) ..... more people my age, then maybe I wouldn't feel so lonely. Sometimes, I really miss my friends in my old neighbourhood. I wish I 4) .....; then I would be able to visit them more often. If only my dad 5) ..... his new job; then we wouldn't have needed to move at all. Sorry, Ben, I wish I 6) ..... a more cheerful letter. Hopefully the next time I write, I will feel better. If only I 7) ..... more patient! I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Steve

NOT/MOVE
RETURN
BE
DRIVE
NOT/TAKE
WRITE
BE

27 **Listen and repeat. Then act out.**

Unreal Past

- **The past simple can be used to refer to the present (unreal present) when we talk about imaginary, unreal or improbable situations which are contrary to facts in the present. The past perfect can be used to refer to imaginary, unreal or improbable situations which are contrary to facts in the past (unreal past).**

Past Simple is used with:	Past Perfect is used with:
• **Conditionals Type 2** (unreal in the present) *If I **were** you, I would pay.*	• **Conditionals Type 3** (unreal in the past) *If I **had seen** him, I would have told you.*
• **wish** (present) *I wish he **were** here now.*	• **wish** (past) *If only you **had taken** his advice when he gave it.*
• **Suppose/Supposing** *Suppose you **were asked** to move out, what would you do?*	• **Suppose/Supposing** *Suppose you **had seen** the crime being committed, what would you have done?*
• **I'd rather/sooner sb ...** (present) *I'd rather you **went** now.*	• **I'd rather/sooner sb ...** (past) *I'd rather you **hadn't told** all those lies.*
• **as if/as though** (untrue situation in the present) *He isn't French but he speaks French as if he **were** from France.*	• **as if/as though** (untrue situation in the past) *He hadn't been awarded the first prize but he behaved as if he **had been awarded** it.*
• **it's (about/high) time** *It's time you **retired**.*	

LIVEWORKSHEETS

had better = should

We use had better + infinitive without 'to' to give advice or to say what the best thing to do in a particular situation is.

I had better + present infinitive without 'to' (present/future reference)
*We had better **stop** smoking.* (= We should stop smoking.)
It would have been better if + past perfect (past reference)
*It would have been better if you **hadn't lied** to her.* (= You shouldn't have lied to her.)

I'd (would) rather = I'd prefer

• **when the subject of would rather is also the subject of the following verb**	**I'd rather + present infinitive without 'to' (present/future reference)** **perfect infinitive without 'to' (past reference)** ***I'd rather go** to the shops tomorrow. **I'd rather not have gone out** yesterday.*
• **when the subject of would rather is different from the subject of the following verb**	**I'd rather sb + past simple (present/future reference)** **past perfect (past reference)** ***I'd rather you studied** a little more.* ***I'd rather you hadn't lied** to me.*

- **prefer + *-ing* form/noun + to + *-ing* form/noun** (general preference) ***I prefer (watching) TV to (going to) the cinema.***
- **prefer + full infinitive + rather than + infinitive without 'to'** (general preference)
  ***I prefer to stay** at home **rather than go** out.*
- **would prefer + full infinitive + rather than + infinitive without 'to'** (specific preference)
  ***I'd prefer to write** to him **rather than call** him.*
- **would rather + infinitive without 'to' + than + infinitive without 'to'** (specific preference)
  ***I'd rather buy** a new dress **than have** this one taken in.*

21 Put the verbs in brackets into the correct form.

1 A: Would you like to go to the theatre this evening?
B: Great idea. We had better .....reserve..... **(reserve)** our seats.

2 A: I didn't enjoy the exhibition very much.
B: Me neither. I would rather they ..... **(display)** more modern art.

3 A: Did you enjoy the concert last weekend?
B: No, I'd rather ..... **(go)** to the cinema.

4 A: Do you read many books?
B: No, I prefer ..... **(watch)** television to ..... **(read)** books.

5 A: You had better ..... **(train)** hard for the race next month.
B: I will. I want to win a medal.

6 A: I'd rather you ..... **(not/wear)** your shoes inside the house.
B: No problem. I'll take them off.

7 A: I'm going to walk into the city centre.
B: Then you'd better ..... **(wear)** your raincoat. It's going to rain later.

8 A: Shall I take the lawnmower into the shed?
B: I'd rather you ..... **(not/move)** it. I'm going to use it later.

LIVEWORKSHEETS

8 Conditionals / Wishes / Unreal Past

22 Underline the correct tense.

1 Supposing you **had seen/had been seen** taking the money, what would you have done?
2 Paul acted as if he **owns/owned** the company.
3 I wish I **went/had gone** to the concert last night.
4 It's high time you **learnt/had learnt** how to cook.
5 Suppose you **saw/had seen** someone getting mugged, what would you do?
6 It's about time we **replaced/had replaced** the old printer.
7 I'd rather you **hadn't told/didn't tell** everyone my secret at the party last night.
8 I would have prepared some sandwiches if I **knew/had known** you were visiting.
9 I'd rather you **didn't turn on/hadn't turned on** the TV when I'm reading.
10 If only I **didn't break/hadn't broken** my dad's camera. He's very angry with me.

23 Put the verbs in brackets into the correct form.

1 Suppose you .....met..... **(meet)** a famous actor, would you ask him for his autograph?
2 I wish I ..... **(ask)** my parents' advice before I decided to buy the house.
3 Alan says he would rather ..... **(prepare)** the dinner by himself.
4 I'd rather you ..... **(send)** me a letter than an email.
5 Supposing I needed to borrow some money, ... **(you/lend)** some to me?
6 She isn't a trained ballerina but she dances as if she ..... **(be)**.
7 If you hadn't left early, you ..... **(hear)** Tom playing the guitar.
8 I wish Alan ..... **(not/change)** jobs; it's not the same here without him.

24 Complete the sentences, as in the example.

1 Your friends want to go surfing but you just want to sunbathe. What do you say?
I would prefer .to sunbathe rather than go surfing.....
2 You parents want you to take out the rubbish. You want your brother to do it. What do you say?
I'd rather .....
3 Your brother has started playing the violin. You want him to stop practising late at night. What do you say?
I'd rather you .....
4 You friend has the flu. You think she should go to the doctor. What do you say?
You'd better .....
5 Your parents have offered to buy you an MP3 player for your birthday rather than the computer you had asked for. What do you say?
I'd rather you .....
6 Your friend has asked if you'd like to go to the beach. You want to stay at home. What do you say?
I would prefer .....
7 Your friend eats a lot of junk food. You think she should eat less. What do you say?
You had better .....
8 Your parents ask if you enjoyed your visit to the museum. You regret having gone. What do you say?
I'd rather .....

LIVEWORKSHEETS

25 **Choose the correct item.**

1 I wish you .... be more careful with my laptop.
A could (B) would C rather

2 If only the children .... make so much noise.
A wouldn't B couldn't C shouldn't

3 You'd .... bring your umbrella with you.
A better B rather C prefer

4 You .... speak to the manager about this issue.
A should B rather C better

5 I .... Rachael had invited me to the dinner party.
A prefer B rather C wish

6 I wish I .... speak Japanese.
A would B should C could

Speaking Activity

(giving advice – conditionals)

A friend of yours has joined a new school and is finding it difficult to make new friends. Use the prompts to give him advice. Use a variety of conditionals.

- look for other new students – looking for new friends too
- introduce yourself first – other students won't be nervous around you
- smile – people approach you
- be yourself – students enjoy talking to you
- join an afterschool club – meet students with the same interests

e.g. If I were you, I would look for other new students in the school. They are probably looking for new friends, too...

Writing Activity

Write an email to your friend based on your answers in the Speaking Activity above.

Dear Sam,
I'm sorry to hear you're finding it difficult to make friends at your new school. I'd like to give you some advice.
If I were you, I would look for other new students in the school. They are probably looking for new friends, too. .....
.....
.....
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.....
.....
.....

LIVEWORKSHEETS