

Grammar Practice

Hypothetical meaning: Wish / If only, Further structures.

Read the theory and solve.

Wish / If only

70a Complete the messages from a message board on the Internet. Use the correct form of the verbs in the box.

be ~~can~~ / ~~learn~~ can / study live not do start stop

Locool

I really admire people who can draw and paint but I can't draw even the simplest things. If only I
(0) **could learn** to draw!

Alexis

I'd gained weight, my clothes didn't fit and I didn't like myself. But since I started running every morning, I feel a lot better about myself. I wish I (1)
taking regular exercise a long time ago!

Li

I come from a family of lawyers and my parents expect me to carry on the tradition, so even though I really wish I
(2) information technology next year, I'll get a law degree first.

Melanie

My alarm went off at six this morning. I must have switched it off and gone back to sleep so I was late for an exam. I wish I (3) such a stupid thing!

timfromnowhere

Nothing exciting ever happens in my town and I get so bored! If only I (4) in a city like London or Brighton, I'd be so much happier.

Scott

I wish my parents (5) complaining about the way I dress. I wish I (6) more patient with them too.

70b Complete the second sentence so that it means the same as the first, using the word in bold. Use between two and five words.

- 0 It is a pity I have to go to school today. **wish**
I **wish I didn't** have to go to school today.
- 1 I am disappointed that he didn't call me. **only**
If me.
- 2 I regret leaving my last job. **had**
I wish my last job.
- 3 Please stop criticising me all the time! **would**
I wish me all the time.
- 4 I am sorry we can't afford a new car. **could**
If only a new car.
- 5 It is a shame we haven't got more time together. **had**
If more time together.
- 6 I regret not finishing my university degree. **I**
I wish my university degree.

Other structure for hypothetical meaning

71 Complete the sentences. Use the correct form of the verbs in the box.

be (x2)	book	go	grow	learn
not go	not leave	not say	ring	tell
			win	

- 0 It's time you *rang* your parents. You haven't spoken to them for ages!
- 1 Sometimes you speak to me as if I a child and it annoys me!
- 2 I'd rather we out tonight. I'm not feeling well.
- 3 It sounds as though she ill. I hope she gets better soon.
- 4 I'd rather you anything to my parents about my exam results – I wanted to tell them myself.
- 5 Isn't it time they their parents they're planning to get married?
- 6 You're talking as if you the game when I know you lost it.
- 7 How can I tell my housemate I'd rather he all of the cooking to me? It's high time he how to cook for himself!
- 8 Sometimes Maribel acts as if money on trees!
- 9 It's July already and it's high time we our holiday. I'm afraid we may have left it too late.
- 10 They don't want to go by themselves. They'd rather we with them to show them the way.



Teacher Daniela.