

Present Wishes

We use **WISH + past tense** to talk about situations in the present that we want to be different.

1) Wish + Past Simple

Structure: Subject + wish + past simple

Example:

I live with my parents. → I wish I **didn't live** with my parents.

I don't have a car. → I wish I **had** a car.

Life is difficult. → I wish it **were** easier.

NOTE: After 'wish', we use 'were' for all subjects with the verb **BE**

I **wish** I **were**, she **wishes** she were

2) Wish + Could

Structure: Subject + wish + could + base verb

I **can't move** out. → I wish I **could move out**.

I **can't travel**. → I wish I **could travel**.

3) Wish + Would

Structure: Subject + wish + would + base verb

Used for annoying or repeated actions.

My parents **won't stop** worrying. → I wish **they would stop** worrying.

He **talks** too much. → I wish **he would stop** talking so much.

Exercise 1: Choose the correct option

1. I wish I _____ taller.
a) am
b) were
c) was
2. She wishes she _____ more money.
a) has
b) had
c) have
3. I can't drive. I wish I _____ drive.
a) can
b) could
c) would
4. He talks a lot. I wish he _____ talking so much.
a) stops
b) stopped
c) would stop

Exercise 2 – Rewrite using WISH

1. I live far from my school.
→ _____
2. I can't play the guitar.
→ _____
3. It is very cold today.
→ _____
4. My brother doesn't help at home.
→ _____
5. I don't speak English fluently.
→ _____

Exercise 3 – Complete with: had / were / could / would

1. I wish I _____ more free time.
2. She wishes she _____ taller.
3. We wish we _____ travel more.
4. I wish my parents _____ understand me.
5. He wishes he _____ better grades.

