

**FORM:**

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| --- | --- |
| **I WISH / IF ONLY** | |
| **Express a wish for things to be different** | wish + past simple  if only + past (subjunctive) |
| **Express a wish for something to happen or to stop happening: complaints** | wish + could / would  if only + would / wouldn’t |
| **Express a wish that something had or hadn’t happened** | wish + past perfect simple or continuous  if only + past perfect |

**USE:**

**If only** is stronger than **wish**. It can be used in a clause on its own or we can add another clause. In the third conditional form, it often expresses deep regret.

**EXERCISES:**

**A - Express wishes. Fill in the blanks with the most appropriate verbs.**

1. I wish I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ a millionaire.
2. I wish I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ a fast car.
3. I wish I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ foreign languages.
4. I wish I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ a beautiful girl.
5. I wish she \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ me.
6. I wish we \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ married.
7. I wish we \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ two children.
8. I wish we \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_in a big house.
9. I wish I \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for a multinational company.
10. I wish we \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ holidays in tropical countries.

**B- Express wishes by writing complete sentences. Use were, had, could, would, etc.**

1. I / be / an electronics engineer.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. She / more people / read / her blog.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. I / you / answer my messages.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. My parents / I / go to / university.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. I / we / meet / more often.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. We / you / drive / more carefully

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. I / you / not take / things / so seriously

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. I / have / more true friends.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

C- Express wishes according to the situations. Follow the example.

1. I need to buy a new computer.

I wish computers weren’t so expensive.( computers / expensive)

1. I love London.

I wish \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (I/go) there more often.

1. The smell of stale cigarette smoke is very unpleasant.

If only \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (you/ stop) smoking.

1. It was a very beautiful house.

I wish \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (they / not have) it demolished.

1. She is very short.

She wishes \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(she / be) taller.

1. I don’t understand these exercises.

I wish \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_( they/be) easier.

1. We are always arguing.

I wish \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_( we / get along).

1. I didn’t go to the party. I wasn’t invited.

I wish \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(they / invite) me.

1. I don’t do much exercise.

I wish \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (I/ practise) a sport.

1. You never care about what I say.

I wish \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (you/listen) to me more.

1. She is English and I can’t understand her
2. If only \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (I/speak) English better.