

## Conditionals: Hypothetical with Wish

**WISH** is used when the speaker wants reality to be different, to be exactly the opposite. As with other unreal conditionals, the “were” form of the verb *be* is used with all subjects.

1. When you wish about something in the present – verbs and modals change to **past** form.

Examples: *I don't speak Spanish*

*I wish I spoke Spanish.*

*It is raining right now.*

*I wish it weren't raining right now.*

*I can't rollerblade.*

*I wish I could rollerblade.*

2. When you wish about something in the past – verbs and modals change to **past perfect (subjunctive)** form.

Examples: *Karen didn't go to the party.*

*We wish Karen had gone to the party.*

*I forgot to give her the key.*

*I wish I hadn't forgotten to give her the key.*

3. When you wish about something in the future – verbs and modals change to **past** form.

Examples: *She isn't going to the concert.*

*I wish she were going to the concert.*

*She can't sing in tomorrow's show.*

*Greg wishes she could sing in tomorrow's show.*

NOTE: We also use Wish + Would for the future when we want something to happen or when we want someone to do something. The speaker is not happy with the present situation.

Examples: *You have been planning a picnic all week. It is raining, so you can't go out.*

*You can say: I wish it would stop raining.*

*You have a lot of homework to do, but there is a lot of noise around you.*

*You can say: I wish everyone would be quiet.*

*Fill in each blank with the correct form of the verb.*

1. I wish I \_\_\_\_\_ (be) independently wealthy.
2. I wish I \_\_\_\_\_ (eat) more last night.
3. He wishes he \_\_\_\_\_ (go) with you to the club.
4. She wishes she \_\_\_\_\_ (see) the hockey game tonight.
5. Billy wishes he \_\_\_\_\_ (have) his license.
6. I wish I \_\_\_\_\_ (have) more free time now.
7. Amanda wishes she \_\_\_\_\_ (have) a better paying job.
8. I wish it \_\_\_\_\_ not \_\_\_\_\_ (rain).
9. I don't know how to ice skate. I wish I \_\_\_\_\_ (know) how to ice skate.
10. Ed didn't go shopping. Irene wishes he \_\_\_\_\_ (go) shopping.
11. I can't afford to go on vacation. I wish I \_\_\_\_\_ (can) afford to take one.
12. Emily didn't attend the conference. I wish she \_\_\_\_\_ (attend) the conference.
13. It is a cold night and we are not sitting in front of a roaring fire. We wish we \_\_\_\_\_ (be) sitting in front of a roaring fire.
14. His office doesn't get any sun. He wishes his office \_\_\_\_\_ (get) some sun.
15. You didn't inform them about the situation. I wish you \_\_\_\_\_ (inform) them about it.
16. Robert's fiancée doesn't like his long hair. She wishes he \_\_\_\_\_ (cut) it.
17. We need some help. I wish Sally \_\_\_\_\_ (be) here now. If she \_\_\_\_\_ (be) we could finish our project.
18. I wish I \_\_\_\_\_ (go) to the concert tomorrow, but I have to work.
19. Tina wishes she \_\_\_\_\_ (eat, not) all that chocolate yesterday.
20. Maria wishes that David \_\_\_\_\_ (close) his classroom door. He's so loud!