

## Offering and Expressing Want: Would Like

**FORM:**

**Statement form:** Subject + would like → to + verb.  
→ noun.

**Question form:** Would + subject + like → to + verb?  
→ noun?

**USE:**

“**Would like**” politely expresses a desire; it replaces “**want**”. In English, many people find the verb “**want**” to be too strong when you are asking for something or asking someone if they want something. “**Would like**” is less direct, and therefore more polite.

**EXAMPLES:**

Would you like to sit by the window? → Yes, I would like to sit by the window.

Would you like some coffee? → Yes, I would like some coffee.

*Read the following letters and fill in the blank spaces with the correct form of the expression. The first one is done as an example.*

1. Dear Tommy,

I will be shopping for your Christmas presents soon. Please tell me what you and your parents want. Would you like a new sweater, or (1) \_\_\_\_\_ a soccer ball? And your father, (2) \_\_\_\_\_ a few new golf clubs or (3) \_\_\_\_\_ a remote control for his TV set? How is your mother? (4) \_\_\_\_\_ an electric mixer or a leather briefcase?

Write soon.

Love,

Aunt Beth

2. Dear Aunt Beth,

Thank you for your letter. I (5) \_\_\_\_\_ the soccer ball, but I wouldn't like a new sweater. My father is fine. I think (6) \_\_\_\_\_ the golf clubs but (7) \_\_\_\_\_ the remote control.

My mother will phone you soon. She (8) \_\_\_\_\_ the briefcase but she (9) \_\_\_\_\_ the electric mixer.

Now, Aunt Beth, about YOUR gift (10) \_\_\_\_\_ a CD player, or (11) \_\_\_\_\_ a tennis racquet?

Love,

Tommy.