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C1 CLAUSES ≈ 27 MIN

The English Subjunctive — *practice on paper*

You know the three living forms; now reinforce mandatives, were, fixed phrases, and honest AmE/BrE tendencies.

Formal mandative: **that + base form** . Hypothetical: **if I were** ; learn fixed phrases as complete units.

NAME _____ DATE _____

YOUR BUILD 1 · SORTING ○ 2 · FILL-IN ○ 3 · CORRECT ○ 4 · WRITE ○

BRICK 1 · SORT MANDATIVE AND WERE FORMS · APPROX. 4 MIN ●○○

Sort each sentence. The left column gives a formal requirement with the base form; the right gives a hypothetical situation with were.

- The board insists that Lena chair the call.
- We recommend that the deadline remain fixed.
- The editor demands that Nina revise the memo.
- They suggest that each reviewer sign.
- Mara recommends that the team leave early.
- If I were in your position, I would wait.
- I wish the schedule were more flexible.
- If the estimate were lower, we could proceed.
- I wish the figures were final today.
- If our office were closer, I would cycle.

FORMAL MANDATIVE: BASE FORM	HYPOTHETICAL: WERE

BRICK 2 · COMPLETE THE TARGET FORM · APPROX. 6 MIN ●●○

Complete each form. The mandative items explicitly target formal AmE; BrE alternatives are not treated as universally wrong.

01 Finance recommends that every quote _____ reviewed twice.

02 The auditors insist that Paula _____ the original ledger.

03 The chair suggests that both teams _____ a joint note.

04 Our client demands that the delegate _____ the hearing.

05 The committee recommends that the terms _____ unchanged. (stay)

06 The director insists that all guests _____ before noon.

07 _____ it to say, the revised total changed our plan.

08 God _____ , we miss the final delivery deadline.

YOUR BUILD | 1 · SORTING | 2 · FILL-IN | 3 · CORRECT | 4 · WRITE

BRICK 3 · FIND AND CORRECT THE FORM ERROR · APPROX. 7 MIN

Each sentence contains exactly one form error. Items 1 and 2 explicitly target the formal AmE mandative; rewrite every sentence in full.

01 The manager recommends that Ravi submits the revised forecast.

02 The customer demanded that the invoice was corrected today.

03 If I would be in charge, I would delay the launch.

04 I wish the venue was available for our date.

05 God forbids! The backup must not fail during the launch.

06 So is it; the decision is final.

BRICK 4 · WRITE WITH REGISTER AND VARIETY · APPROX. 8 MIN

Write one English sentence for each prompt. Treat AmE and BrE as tendencies and make the requested register clear.

01 Formal AmE: recommend that the finance director compare two quotations.

02 Traditional BrE: phrase the same kind of requirement with should plus the infinitive.

03 Hypothetical advice: imagine leading a project and use were.

04 Fixed phrase: begin a sentence with so be it.

MINI-CHECK — CAN I DO THIS YET?

- ☐ I use the base form without indicative -s in formal AmE mandatives.
- ☐ I use were rather than would be in a hypothetical if-clause.
- ☐ I keep every fixed phrase intact as a complete unit.
- ☐ I describe AmE and BrE as tendencies and do not call the BrE indicative universally wrong.

Still unsure? Mark the purpose, register, and variety first, then try the sheet again.

Answer key

Check only when you have finished. Every answer comes with the **why** — the rule matters more than the result.

BRICK 1 · SORTING

01 The board insists that Lena chair the call.
Formal mandative: base form marks the requirement.

02 We recommend that the deadline remain fixed.
Formal mandative: base form marks the requirement.

03 The editor demands that Nina revise the memo.
Formal mandative: base form marks the requirement.

04 They suggest that each reviewer sign.
Formal mandative: base form marks the requirement.

05 Mara recommends that the team leave early.
Formal mandative: base form marks the requirement.

06 If I were in your position, I would wait.
Hypothetical: were marks the imagined situation.

07 I wish the schedule were more flexible.
Hypothetical: were marks the imagined situation.

08 If the estimate were lower, we could proceed.
Hypothetical: were marks the imagined situation.

09 I wish the figures were final today.
Hypothetical: were marks the imagined situation.

10 If our office were closer, I would cycle.
Hypothetical: were marks the imagined situation.

BRICK 2 · FILL-IN

01 Finance recommends that every quote **be** reviewed twice.
AmE tendency: be is the mandative base form.

02 The auditors insist that Paula **keep** the original ledger.
AmE tendency: keep is the mandative base form.

03 The chair suggests that both teams **prepare** a joint note.
AmE tendency: prepare is the mandative base form.

04 Our client demands that the delegate **join** the hearing.
AmE tendency: join is the mandative base form.

05 The committee recommends that the terms **stay** unchanged.
AmE tendency: stay is the mandative base form.

06 The director insists that all guests **arrive** before noon.
AmE tendency: arrive is the mandative base form.

07 **Suffice** it to say, the revised total changed our plan.
Fixed phrase: the four words stay intact.

08 God **forbid**, we miss the final delivery deadline.
Fixed phrase: God forbid stays intact.

BRICK 3 · CORRECT

01 The manager recommends that Ravi **submit** the revised forecast.
AmE tendency: submit is the mandative base form.

02 The customer demanded that the invoice **be corrected** today.
AmE tendency: be corrected uses the mandative base form.

03 If I **were** in charge, I would delay the launch.
Were form: were replaces would be in the if-clause.

04 I wish the venue **were** available for our date.
Were form: wish takes were here.

05 God **forbid**! The backup must not fail during the launch.
Fixed phrase: God forbid stays intact.

06 So **be** it; the decision is final.
Fixed phrase: So be it stays intact.

BRICK 4 · WRITE

Your answers may differ if the form, register, and variety label fit the prompt.

01 In this formal AmE email, we suggest that the finance director **compare** two quotations.
AmE tendency: compare is the mandative base form.

02 Following the traditional BrE tendency, we suggest that the finance director **should compare** two quotations.
BrE tendency: should plus infinitive is traditional.

03 If I **were** leading the project, I would postpone the client demo.
Were form: were opens the hypothetical advice.

04 So **be** it; we will implement the revised schedule.
Fixed phrase: So be it stays intact.

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