

B2

CONDITIONALS

≈ 27 MIN

Wish and If Only – *practice on paper*

You know wishes, regrets, and complaints — now reinforce the time logic with fresh examples.

Past = regret now · **past perfect** = regret before · **would** = external behaviour · **hope** = possible future

NAME

DATE

YOUR BUILD

1 · SORTING

2 · FILL-IN

3 · CORRECT

4 · WRITE

BRICK 1 · SORT BY TIME · APPROX. 4 MIN

● ○ ○

Sort each sentence. Put an **unreal situation now** on the left and a missed earlier action on the right.

I wish the office were quieter.

If only our schedule allowed more testing.

I wish the dashboard worked offline.

If only we had a larger support team.

I wish the deadline were less rigid.

I wish we had saved the first draft.

If only procurement had checked the licence.

I wish I had rehearsed the opening.

If only the courier had arrived before noon.

I wish they had recorded the decision.

REGRET NOW: PAST

REGRET BEFORE: PAST PERFECT

BRICK 2 · COMPLETE THE RIGHT FORM · APPROX. 6 MIN

● ○ ○

Complete the verb. First identify present regret, past regret, external behaviour, or a possible future.

01 I wish I _____ this licence clause. (understand)

02 I wish I _____ the travel policy before booking. (read)

03 I wish the printer _____ jamming during calls. (stop)

04 I _____ the client signs before Friday. (hope)

05 I wish we _____ another analyst today. (have)

06 I wish I _____ the attachment before sending. (check)

07 Our vendor won't reply; I wish they _____ an answer. (give)

08 If only the trial _____ fewer approval steps. (need)

YOUR BUILD

1 · SORTING

2 · FILL-IN

3 · CORRECT

4 · WRITE

BRICK 3 · FIND AND CORRECT THE MISTAKE · APPROX. 7 MIN



Each sentence contains one error with a wish, regret, or hope. Write it correctly.

01 I wish I would know the answer now.

.....

02 If only we would have backed up the files.

.....

03 The scanner keeps freezing; I wish it would stops.

.....

04 I wish the contract contains fewer clauses.

.....

05 If only finance had approve the final budget.

.....

06 I hope we had prepared better yesterday; we did not.

.....

BRICK 4 · WRITE FOUR WISHES · APPROX. 8 MIN



Write one English sentence for each prompt. Choose **wish**, if only, would, or hope appropriately.

01 Now: regret a current limitation at work.

.....

02 Before: regret a missed preparation step.

.....

03 Complaint: wish for a faster provider response.

.....

04 Future: express a realistic hope for a project.

.....

MINI-CHECK – CAN I DO THIS YET?

- ☐ I use past for an unreal situation now.
- ☐ I use past perfect for a missed action.
- ☐ I use would only for troublesome external behaviour.
- ☐ I choose hope for a realistic open future.

Unsure? Mark the time and target of the wish before choosing the form.



Answer key

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

BRICK 1 · SORTING

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>01 I wish the office were quieter.
<i>Present: Past creates distance from reality now.</i></p> <p>02 If only our schedule allowed more testing.
<i>Present: Past describes today's limited schedule.</i></p> <p>03 I wish the dashboard worked offline.
<i>Present: Past marks the unreal function now.</i></p> <p>04 If only we had a larger support team.
<i>Present: Past describes the current team size.</i></p> <p>05 I wish the deadline were less rigid.
<i>Present: Past creates distance from the current deadline.</i></p> | <p>06 I wish we had saved the first draft.
<i>Past: Past perfect marks the missed save.</i></p> <p>07 If only procurement had checked the licence.
<i>Past: Past perfect looks back at the missed check.</i></p> <p>08 I wish I had rehearsed the opening.
<i>Past: Past perfect marks the missed rehearsal.</i></p> <p>09 If only the courier had arrived before noon.
<i>Past: Past perfect looks back at the missed arrival.</i></p> <p>10 I wish they had recorded the decision.
<i>Past: Past perfect marks the missed record.</i></p> |
|--|---|

BRICK 2 · FILL-IN

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>01 I wish I understood this licence clause.
<i>Present: Past describes the speaker's own state now.</i></p> <p>02 I wish I had read the travel policy before booking.
<i>Past: Past perfect marks the missed reading.</i></p> <p>03 I wish the printer would stop jamming during calls.
<i>Complaint: Would targets troublesome external behaviour.</i></p> <p>04 I hope the client signs before Friday.
<i>Future: Hope fits a possible outcome.</i></p> | <p>05 I wish we had another analyst today.
<i>Present: Past describes the current staffing gap.</i></p> <p>06 I wish I had checked the attachment before sending.
<i>Past: Past perfect marks the missed check.</i></p> <p>07 Our vendor won't reply; I wish they would give an answer.
<i>Complaint: Would asks for changed behaviour.</i></p> <p>08 If only the trial needed fewer approval steps.
<i>Present: Past describes the unreal wish now.</i></p> |
|--|--|

BRICK 3 · CORRECT

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>01 I wish I knew the answer now.
<i>Present: The speaker's own state takes past, not would.</i></p> <p>02 If only we had backed up the files.
<i>Past: The speaker's missed action needs past perfect.</i></p> <p>03 The scanner keeps freezing; I wish it would stop.
<i>Complaint: Would is followed by the base form stop.</i></p> | <p>04 I wish the contract contained fewer clauses.
<i>Present: Past describes the unreal situation now.</i></p> <p>05 If only finance had approved the final budget.
<i>Past: Had requires the participle approved.</i></p> <p>06 I wish we had prepared better yesterday; we did not.
<i>Past: Wish with past perfect expresses regret.</i></p> |
|---|---|

BRICK 4 · WRITE

Answers vary; check the time, target, and appropriate form.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>01 I wish our meeting room had better lighting.
<i>Present: Past describes the current limitation.</i></p> <p>02 If only we had compared both offers earlier.
<i>Past: Past perfect marks the missed preparation.</i></p> | <p>03 I wish the hosting company would answer sooner.
<i>Complaint: Would targets external behaviour.</i></p> <p>04 I hope the pilot attracts enough volunteers.
<i>Future: Hope describes a realistic open outcome.</i></p> |
|--|--|

NEXT BRICKS – KEEP BUILDING FREE ONLINE

PREREQUISITE

First and Second Conditionals

englisch-lehrer.com/en/lessons/first-second-conditionals

PREREQUISITE

Mixed Conditionals

englisch-lehrer.com/en/lessons/mixed-conditionals

ALL LESSONS

45+ free lessons

englisch-lehrer.com/en/lessons

HANOVER

Schaufelder Straße 11 · 30167
englisch-lehrer.com/hannover

BERLIN

Kurfürstendamm 30 · 10719
englisch-lehrer.com/berlin

ONLINE COURSES

englisch-lehrer.com/online
worldwide on Zoom

CONTACT

+49 511 4739339
james@englisch-lehrer.com

