

HOW TO USE

'WISH'



WISHES: SUMMARY

- ▶ Wish to change a situation in the **present**: I wish / If only + Simple Past
I wish / If only + Past Continuous
- ▶ Wish something to happen in the **future**: I wish / If only + would + verb
- ▶ Wish to change something in the **past**: I wish / If only + Past Perfect

WISHES: PRESENT

- ▶ When you wish to change a **present** situation, but it is not possible to change it, use:

- ▶ I wish / If only + **Simple Past**

- ▶ If only I **had** a pet dog to keep me company.
- ▶ I wish she **listened** to me more.

- ▶ I wish / If only + **Past Continuous**

- ▶ I wish my parents **were coming** to see my play tonight.
- ▶ If only we **weren't fighting** so much.

WISHES: PRESENT

Instead of using 'was', use 'were'.

- ▶ If only I **was** taller.
- ▶ If only I **were** taller.
- ▶ I wish he **was** able to come and see me.
- ▶ I wish he **were** able to come and see me.

WISHES: PRESENT (EXAMPLES)

- ▶ If only I **had** a friend to talk to.
- ▶ I wish my dreams **came** true.
- ▶ If only Sophie **were still talking** to me.

WISHES: FUTURE

- ▶ When you wish something to happen in the **future**, but it is not possible to happen, use:

- ▶ I wish / If only + **would** + verb

- ▶ I wish you **would listen** to me!

- ▶ If only my friend **would come** back from Australia.

WISHES: FUTURE (EXAMPLES)

- ▶ If only you **would try** harder in school.
- ▶ I wish you **would learn** how to cook properly.
- ▶ If only my mother **would take** me on holiday.

WISHES: PAST

▶ When you wish to go back and change something in the **past**, use:

▶ I wish / If only + **Past Perfect (had + past participle)**

▶ I wish I **had listened** to my parents.

▶ If only she **had learned** how to swim.

WISHES: PAST (EXAMPLES)

- ▶ If only you **had come** back from holiday a little bit earlier.
- ▶ I wish you **had been** there when it happened.
- ▶ If only Dan **hadn't got** onto that plane.