I wish …/If only …

Mastery 2B – unit 16

Grammar – page 118

Language Center



Regrets

Do you have any regrets?
What are they?

Look at page 116 And find the regrets.

I wish I'd learned to play the piano when I was younger. My children all take lessons, and if they find something hard, I can't help them. The good thing is that one day I'll learn to play the piano after all. My children will be able to teach me!
Alfred

Ever since I was a child, I've wanted to learn to fly planes. By the time I had my pilot's license, I had also graduated in engineering. So when I got the opportunity to work for an engineering company in Australia, I was overjoyed. It was my dream job! But my English wasn't good enough. If only I had worked harder at speaking English! I'm taking an intensive course in English right now, but I wish I'd practiced more when I was at school.
William

When I finished my college degree in Medicine, I had an opportunity to work as a volunteer for a medical charity in Africa. But I was too nervous to leave home. I'm very happy in my job at the local hospital – but I wish I'd been able to help people in other countries, too. Still, there's always time to volunteer when I retire!
Anne

I was so busy studying when I was a student that I didn't have time to take driving lessons. Now I live quite far from my parents, and it's hard to get to see them by public transportation. I have a good job and enough money to buy a car now. If only I'd taken driving lessons earlier!
Emily

Look at page 116
Find the regrets.

- ✓ I wish I´d learned to play the piano when I was younger.
- ✓ If only I had worked harder at speaking English!
- ✓ I wish I'd practiced more when I was at school.
- ✓ I wish I'd been able to help people in other countries, too.
- ✓ If only I'd taken driving lessons earlier!

Are these sentences in

a) Present b) past c) future d) Past and Present

- ✓ I wish I´d learned to play the piano when I was younger.
- ✓ If only I had worked harder at speaking English!
- ✓ I wish I'd practiced more when I was at school.
- ✓ but I wish I'd been able to help people in other countries, too.
- ✓ If only I'd taken driving lessons earlier!

- ✓ I wish I´d learned to play the piano when I was younger.

Answer the questions below.

1. Can he play the piano right now?
2. Did he learn to play piano when he was younger?
3. Is he regretful right now?

GRAMMAR: *I wish .../If only ...*

Student grammar review page W97

5 Complete the sentences from the text about past regrets.

1 I didn't learn to play the piano.
I wish I'd learned to play the piano.

2 I wasn't able to help people in other countries.
I wish _____ to help people in other countries.

3 I didn't work hard at speaking English.
If only _____ at speaking English.

4 I didn't practice enough when I was at school.
I wish _____ more when I was at school.

5 I didn't take driving lessons.
If only _____ driving lessons earlier.

GRAMMAR: *I wish .../If only ...*

Student grammar review page W97

5 What regrets do these people have? Say sentences with *I wish .../If only ...* Compare in pairs.

1 I didn't go to college.

If only/I wish I'd gone to college.

2 I didn't write a book.

3 I was too nervous to apply for my dream job.

4 I didn't want to travel.

5 I didn't become a teacher.

6 Nobody helped me.

6 Look at the pictures. What are the people thinking? Use *I wish …/If only …*







What do you regret?

I really wish I'd learned how to .....

If only I'd .....

I should never have given up .....

Sometimes I think I should have .....

I wish I'd studied .....

Sometimes I really regret .....

If only my parents had .....

I wish I'd been more .....

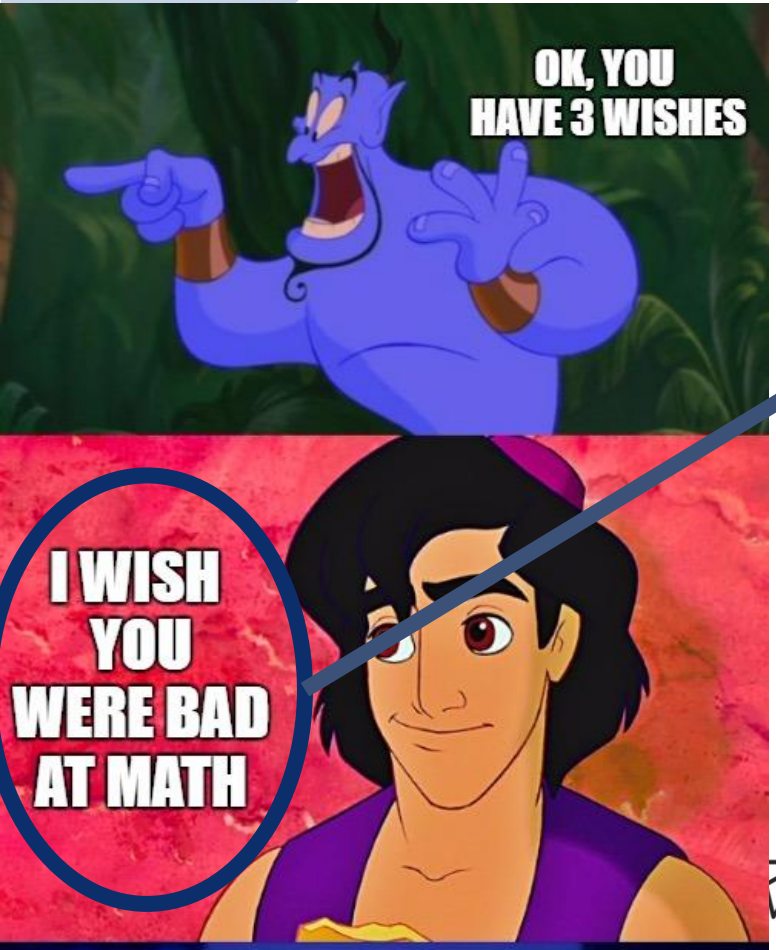
(your idea) .....

Talk in groups.



Is his wish in the

a. Present
b. Past
c. Future
d. Present and past



Is his wish in the

a. Present

b. Past

c. Future

d. Present and past

Wishes about the present – wish

We can make **wishes** about the **present** using:

If only / I wish + simple past

Example:

If only I **knew** how to use a computer. (I don't know how to use a computer and I would like to learn how to use it)



I wish I had more money.

You wish for a new job in another city.

You wish to start your own business.

You wish to be fluent in Japanese.

Making wishes about the present.

■We can express **a wish** about the **future** using:

■**wish** + **object** + **would + bare infinitive**.



I wish it would stop raining soon. I have to walk to work.

Speaking

If you have a wish but your family doesn't agree with you, what should you do?

Do you have any strange wishes?

Why are wishes very important to people?

Do you really want all your wishes to come true?

Speaking

Student A: you are an interviewer.
Ask your partner about his/her past (decisions, mistakes, etc.)

Student B: you are a retired person. (doctor, teacher, babysitter, etc.)

Homework

Make a presentation.
What wishes do you have for your country?
For your family members?
For your classmates?
For your roommates?