

**GRAMMAR GUIDE**

**Third conditional**

- 1 Look at these sentences and answer the questions.
- a If I'd **lived** closer to the sea, I **would have begun** surfing much earlier.
  - b If I **hadn't passed** my exams, they **wouldn't have let** me do the course.
- 1 How do we make third conditional sentences?
  - 2 Do we use the third conditional for imaginary situations in the present or the past?

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2 Complete the sentences about these past situations using the third conditional.

- 1 If I / know how to play tennis properly / I / not injure / myself last week.  
If I **knew how to play...**, I **would not have injured myself last week.**
- 2 She / not catch a cold / it / she / not go running in the rain.  
She **would not have caught... if she had not gone running...**
- 3 The stadium / be full / it / the match / be important.  
The stadium **would be full if the match were / was imp. would be full if the match were / was imp.**
- 4 She / win the race / it / she / not twist her ankle.  
She **would have won the race if she hadn't twisted her ankle.**
- 5 If we / drink water before the race / we / not be so thirsty.  
If **we had drunk water, we would not be so thirsty now.**
- 6 If the sun / shine / we / swim in the sea.  
If **the sun was / were shining, we would swim in the sea / would go swimming...**
- 7 If he / need extra vitamins / he / take them.  
If **he needed / had needed extra vitamins, he would take them / would have taken them.**
- 8 My dad / not keep fit / if / not enjoy doing sport.  
**My dad would not keep fit if he didn't enjoy it.**

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**Mixed conditional**

- 3 Look at these sentences and answer the questions.
- a If I **had started** to swim when I was younger, I **would be** a much better swimmer now.
  - b If I **didn't like** Pilates, I **would have stopped** a long time ago.
- 1 Are mixed conditionals a mixture of first and second conditionals, or second and third conditionals?
  - 2 Which sentence describes an imaginary past situation and its present consequence?
  - 3 Which sentence describes an imaginary present situation and its past consequence?

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4 Which sentence endings are possible? There may be more than one possible answer. How is the meaning of each sentence different?

- 1 I would have gone to see the concert if
  - a I like opera.
  - b I liked opera.**
  - c I had liked the opera.**
- 2 She would be ill now if
  - a she doesn't take the medicine.
  - b she didn't take the medicine.**
  - c she hadn't taken the medicine.**
- 3 If I'd practised ten hours a day
  - a I am a great tennis player.
  - b I would be a great tennis player.**
  - c I would have been a great tennis player.**
- 4 If penicillin didn't exist
  - a many people will die.
  - b many people would die.**
  - c many people would have died.**
- 5 I wouldn't be happy if
  - a you lie to me.
  - b you lied to me.**
  - c you had lied to me.**

5 Look at the situations and complete the sentences using mixed conditionals.

- 1 Becky loves gymnastics so she joined a club.  
If Becky didn't love gymnastics, **she would not have joined a club.**
- 2 Alice spent lots of time studying and now she's a doctor.  
If Alice **had not spent so much time studying, she would not be a doctor now.**
- 3 Their new film is great because they spent years making it.  
If they **hadn't spent years making it, it would not be so great.**
- 4 They don't know where the key is. That's why they haven't opened the door.  
If they **knew where the key is, they would have opened the door.**
- 5 They didn't speak to the famous actor because they can't speak English.  
If they **could speak English, they would have spoken to the famous actor.**
- 6 I haven't got anything for you to eat because I didn't know you were coming.  
If I **had known you were coming, I would have got something to eat for you.**
- 7 Liam has got a new mobile phone because he lost his old one.  
Liam **would not have a new mobile phone if he had not lost his old one.**
- 8 I'm doing my homework now because I didn't remember to do it yesterday.  
If I **had remembered to do it yesterday, I would not be doing my homework now.**

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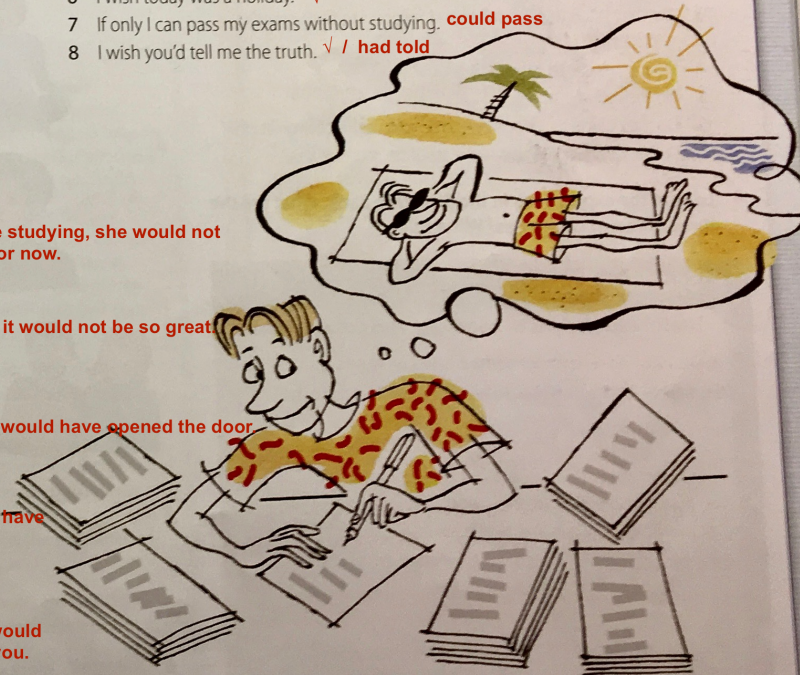
**I wish / If only**

- 6 Look at these sentences and answer the questions.
- a I wish / If only I'd **learnt** to swim properly when I was a kid.
  - b I wish / If only I **was** taller.
  - c I wish / If only people **wouldn't** make fun of my favourite sport.
- 1 What tense appears after *I wish / If only* in sentence a?
  - 2 Does this sentence talk about a present or past situation that we would like to be different?
  - 3 What tense appears after *I wish / If only* in sentence b?
  - 4 Does this sentence talk about an imaginary wish for a present or past situation?
  - 5 What verb form appears after *I wish / If only* in sentence c?
  - 6 Do we use sentence c to talk about habitual behaviour that we like or we want to criticize and change?

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7 Decide if the sentences are correct. Rewrite the incorrect sentences.

- 1 I wish I'm on a beach right now. **I wish I was / were on a beach.**
- 2 I wish you didn't interrupt me when I'm talking. → **(criticize bad habit) / or: I wish you wouldn't interrupt... (wish for change)**
- 3 If only I studied more last night. **had studied**
- 4 I wish you would arrived on time. You're always late. ✓
- 5 If only I'd won that competition last week. ✓
- 6 I wish today was a holiday. ✓
- 7 If only I can pass my exams without studying. **could pass**
- 8 I wish you'd tell me the truth. ✓ / **had told**



Write three true sentences with *I wish*. Write one about a present situation that you would like to be different, one about a past situation, and one about somebody who does something that you would like to change.

- a I wish...      b I wish...      c I wish...