

WISH SENTENCES

WISH FOLLOWED BY THE PAST FORMS

Time Reference	Situation	Example	Meaning
PRESENT WISH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I am not a movie star. • He works too much. • The sun is not shining. • I can't sing. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>I wish I were (was) a movie star.</i> <i>Как жаль, что я не кинозвезда. / Как бы мне хотелось быть кинозвездой.</i> • <i>He wishes he didn't work so hard.</i> <i>Как жаль, что он так много работает. / Как бы ему хотелось работать поменьше.</i> • <i>I wish the sun was shining.</i> <i>Как жаль, что не светит солнце. / Как бы мне хотелось, чтобы светило солнце.</i> • <i>I wish I could sing.</i> <i>Как жаль, что я не умею петь. / Как бы я хотел уметь петь.</i> 	Expresses regret about a present situation.
Time Reference	Situation	Example	Meaning
PAST WISH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He has lost the money. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>He wishes he hadn't lost the money.</i> <i>Он сожалеет, что потерял деньги.</i> 	Expresses regret about a past situation.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • She didn't have a rest. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>She wishes she had had a rest.</i> <i>Она сожалеет, что не отдохнула.</i> 	
FUTURE WISH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most likely, it won't rain tonight. • I can't come with you, and I regret it. • I'd like him to help me, but I don't think he wants to. • Stop crying, will you? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>I wish it would rain tonight.</i> <i>Как бы мне хотелось, чтобы вечером пошел дождь.</i> • <i>I wish I could come with you.</i> <i>Как бы мне хотелось поехать с вами.</i> • <i>I wish he would help me.</i> <i>Как бы я хотел, чтобы он помог мне.</i> • <i>I wish you would stop crying. / I wish you wouldn't cry.</i> <i>Да перестань же ты плакать!</i> 	<p>Expresses a wish for a change which will probably not take place.</p> <p>You wish that someone was able to do something.</p> <p>You wish that someone was willing to do something.</p> <p>Can express annoyance.</p>

Wish is used to say that you would like things to be different from what they are.

Notes: 1. The subjunctive form *I / he / she / it were* is possible in formal style, the form *I / he / she / it was* is acceptable in spoken English.

2. **Wish** and **would** cannot have the same subject.

I wish she would change her lifestyle.

Как бы мне хотелось, чтобы она изменила образ жизни.

could

But: *I wish I would change my lifestyle.*

Как бы мне хотелось изменить свой образ жизни.

Warning: it is not necessary to translate *could* and *would* into Russian!

3. **Wished** can replace **wish** without changing the form that follows.

I wish / wished I didn't have to get up early.

Как жаль / Я сожалею, что мне приходится рано вставать.

She wishes / wished she had been promoted.

Она сожалеет / сожалела, что ее не повысили в должности.

Exercise 1

Paraphrase the sentences using wish.

1. She was sorry that her son was impatient and forgetful.
2. It was a stupid idea – I'm sorry I ever mentioned it.
3. Bob regrets losing touch with his friends from school.
4. My one regret is that I never visited Taj Mahal when I was in India.
5. Jim's too stingy to give money to charity, and I'm sorry about it.
6. Her biggest regret is that she turned down his proposal of marriage.
7. He was sorry to be leaving the small town where he had grown up.
8. He is not keeping track of what he spends his money on, and I regret it.
9. I'm sorry you can't tell good from evil.
10. It's a pity I have to go to work today.
11. I was disappointed not to find her at home.
12. He was sorry not to have been given the chance to prove his point.
13. It's a pity we don't have a leader with vision and strong principles.
14. Regrettably, the search for survivors was abandoned.
15. Unfortunately, you were out when we called.

Exercise 2

Express the speaker's annoyance or disappointment using wish and would.

1. Will you stop this awful noise this instant!
2. Why doesn't she shut up for a moment and let someone else speak!
3. He just won't do as he's told.
4. He is always interrupting people when they're speaking.
5. My wife keeps asking me silly questions.
6. You never apologize for your outrageous behaviour.
7. Just stop getting on my nerves!
8. Don't just look at me like that – say something!
9. You hardly ever call your parents!
10. He is always leaving the door open, and it drives me crazy.

Exercise 3

Express people's regrets and desires using wish.

1. Sarah is in a bad mood because her father won't let her go to the party tonight. Sarah wishes...
2. When Joanne gets angry she shouts a lot. Her husband wishes...
3. I don't have enough experience to be considered for the job. I wish...
4. We're not going on holiday this year, simply because we can't afford it. We wish...
5. The owner of the car insisted on being given cash in advance. I wish...
6. I asked if I could buy the house from them, but they said they'd already made prior arrangements. I wished ...
7. It seems to me that the world is getting more and more unpleasant – people just don't respect each other any more. I wish...
8. Before he could finish the sentence, she had already walked out of the room. He wished...
9. Richard left the course three weeks before the end of the term. His parents wished...
10. Tony didn't check the oil and tyres before setting out on a long journey. He wishes...
11. They're worried that they may have to sell the house. They wish...
12. The situation at the factory is getting out of hand. They wish...
13. It wasn't a very good start to the vacation – our car broke down on the first day. We wished...
14. My son has got in trouble with the police. I wish...
15. The landlord is an extremely disagreeable man who doesn't allow us to have visitors in our rooms. We wish...

Exercise 4

Add comments to these sentences using I wish. The first two are done for you.

1. I'm afraid they are disappointed in their son. – I wish they weren't.
2. Tom has been reduced to poverty. – I wish he hadn't.
3. He has got into a fix.
4. She never admits her mistakes.
5. The event was not covered in the press.
6. He doesn't treat his parents with respect.
7. We didn't check on him.
8. He became redundant.
9. She always imposes her own beliefs and moral values on other people.
10. I lost the keys and wasn't able to get in without them.
11. My daughter fell off a swing and hurt herself.

12. I was outplayed at cards and lost all my money.
13. Susan snaps at anyone who offers to help her.
14. Nancy is in an irritable mood.
15. Tony just sits around the house smoking all day.

Exercise 5

Answer the questions using wish. The first two are done for you.

1. Can you afford to go on vacation this year? – I wish I could.
2. Did you remember to do the shopping? – I wish I had.
3. Does the security provide enough insurance against illness?
4. Have you seen Arnold Schwarzenegger's most recent film?
5. Do you have complete confidence in your doctor?
6. Will the United Nations send troops to the region?
7. Do your children show enough respect for you?
8. Have you completed your course of training?
9. Do you think the weather will change for the better?
10. Will he give her a nice present?
11. Are you suited to each other?
12. Were you considered for the job?
13. Is Paul capable of running the business efficiently?
14. Can you remember what you did with your car keys?
15. Is he going to run for parliament?

Exercise 6

Translate into English using wish where possible.

1. Жаль, что Боб не может обеспечивать семью.
2. Да перестаньте же вы спорить! Вы оба не правы, но ни один из вас не готов признать это.
3. Как жаль, что моего сына не приняли в художественное училище. Он тонко чувствует красоту и хорошо рисует.
4. Жаль, что наш план не встретил одобрения.
5. Как бы я хотел, чтобы мне не приходилось работать с 9 до 5. Хотел бы я проводить больше времени с семьей и уделять внимание детям.
6. Он сожалел, что не послушался совета отца и не ушел из банка. Его прогноз оказался правильным – банк разорился.
7. Как жаль, что у нас кончились продукты. Если бы не это, мы могли бы продолжить восхождение.
8. Вы поддерживаете связь со своими школьными товарищами? К сожалению, нет.
9. Джейк осуществил свое тайное желание? Нет, к сожалению.
10. Как бы мне хотелось, чтобы ты не напрашивался на неприятности.
11. Я бы хотела ответить на ваши вопросы более обстоятельно (дать подробные ответы), но наше время истекло. Лекция окончена.
12. Старые банкноты изъяли из обращения. А жаль.
13. Жаль, что ты веришь всему, что слышишь. На твоём месте я бы не был таким доверчивым.
14. Как бы мне хотелось побывать в Париже, но, боюсь, это неосуществимая мечта.
15. Как жаль, что американские авиакомпании все еще нанимают людей с сомнительной биографией. (questionable backgrounds)

☞ IT'S TIME FOLLOWED BY THE PAST FORM

It's time (for smb) to do smth	= <i>The time has come...</i>
It's time (that) smb did smth <i>Пора ...</i>	= <i>It's a little late ...</i>
It's about time / high time (that) smb did smth <i>Давно пора...</i>	

Warning: It's time (that) I / he / she / it **was** (NOT "I / he / she/it were")

Exercise 7

Comment on the statements using it's time.

Model: Your room is in a terrible state. → It's about time you tidied it up.

1. The roads in Scotland are only wide enough for one car at a time.
2. Elliot leads a strangely unsettled life, drifting from place to place and job to job.
3. You are asking for trouble if you keep turning up late every evening.
4. It's long since we had our flat redecorated.
5. He has been overeating and has put on a lot of extra weight.
6. In the US, more than 20 percent of new teachers leave the profession in the first three years.
Money is the major reason.
7. She feels overworked and stressed out.
8. The house has fallen into decay and needs a new roof and new plumbing.
9. The service industry is running down but the government does nothing.
10. Pete has been dating Linda for five years.
11. Sam has had nothing to eat ever since morning.
12. Most of the world's population don't get enough to eat.

Exercise 8

Translate into English using it's time.

1. Тебе пора научиться отличать дурное от хорошего.
2. Не пора ли тебе заняться делом? Ты бездельничаешь со вчерашнего дня.
3. В последнее время мы слишком много тратим. Пора начать откладывать деньги на черный день.
4. Некогда процветающие деревни покинуты. Правительству пора подумать, как сделать жизнь в деревне более привлекательной.
5. Как жаль, что ты самонадеян! Не пора ли понять, что ты не можешь обходиться без нашей помощи?
6. Давно пора перестать навязывать дочери свои взгляды и убеждения. Она взрослый человек и в состоянии решить, как ей поступить.
7. Его послушать (he sounds), так он самый талантливый, самый умный, самый замечательный. Он себя переоценивает. Не пора ли сказать ему, что мы о нем думаем?
8. На вашем месте я бы продал квартиру и переехал за город. Давно пора позаботиться о своем здоровье.