

Aula 7

GENRE DIFFERENCES - WISHES AND REGRETS

META

Apresentar as estruturas gramaticais que são frequentes em contextos de expressar desejo e arrependimento.

OBJETIVOS

At the end of this class, it is expected that the students:

- Estar apto a expressar wishes e regrets;
- Perceber as diferentes estruturas gramaticais;
- Desenvolver diálogos referente ao assunto.

PRERREQUISITOS

Ter aprendido verbos modal, particípio passado e condicional.

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INTRODUCTION

Are you satisfied with everything that is going on in your life? If not, how about learning how you wish things were different? What about your past? We all have something in the past that we may or may not have regretted. The need to complain once and for all of the things that annoy us in our daily lives is also common. How about learning how to express these desires, complaints and regrets in English? For this, in this lesson we will see the structures with 'wish and if only, regret, should / should not have done'.

At the very beginning the song lyric from 'Les Miserables' is presented expressing the wishes and regrets from a lady with her heart broken expressing her pain. Then we move to a text named 'Why men don't iron?', we will have the opportunity to discuss a few interesting differentiating aspect of male and female genders.



The Original work written by Victor Hugo, 1862 originated theater concerts, songs, movie etc.
Fonte: <https://proxy.duckduckgo.com>.

I Dreamed a Dream (Les Misérables)

There was a time when men were kind
When their voices were soft
And their words inviting.
There was a time when love was blind
And the world was a song

And the song was exciting.
There was a time ... then it all went wrong

I dreamed a dream in time gone by
When hope was high and life worth living,
I dreamed that love would never die
I dreamed that God would be forgiving.

Then I was young and unafraid,
When dreams were made and used and wasted.
There was no ransom to be paid,
No song unsung, no wine untasted.

But the tigers come at night,
With their voices soft as thunder,
As they tear your hope apart
As they turn your dream to shame

He slept a summer by my side.
He filled my days with endless wonder,
He took my childhood in his stride,

Song Composers: Alain Albert Boublil / Claude Michel Schonberg / Herbert Kretzmer / Jean Marc Natel

Based on the song, which of the following is true?

- She **wishes** her life was better
- She **wishes** her lover hadn't parted.
- She **wishes** she weren't living in a hell

In which statement (s) does she make a wish about the present moment?

What verb tense follows the verb **wish** in these statements?

- simple present and present continuous.
- simple past and past continuous.

In which statement (s) does she regret, feel sorry about her past?

What verb tense follows the verb **wish** in this statement?

- simple past
- past perfect (had + past participle).

Making wishes and showing regrets are part of our lives. Some of our wishes may come true, some may not. We may show regret or not to things from the recent or long past.

How to express them in English?



Does this image represent the present reality? Fonte: <https://previews.123rf.com>.

During the last fifty years psychologists have made us believe that differences between men and women are mainly the result of traditional social 'conditioning', i.e. the way we are brought up. According to this theory women can be trained to do jobs that men traditionally do, and men can and should become more domesticated. This so-called 'new man' should be in touch with his 'feminine side', more communicative and emotional, and should do the ironing.

But two new books say that, according to recent scientific research, gender differences exist because men's and women's brains work completely differently and their biological differences mean that they can never think or behave in the same way. Try this experiment: read a passage aloud from a book or magazine. At the same time, tap on the table with one finger, and try to maintain a constant speed. Do this first with your right hand and then with your left hand. If you are a woman, you will be able to maintain a constant speed with either hand. Men however, when tapping with their left hand, will slow down. This is one of the many experiments which proves that men's brains are in compartments, with verbal abilities on the left side and spatial abilities on the right. For women, however, verbal and spatial problems are dealt with on both the left and right sides of the brain.

Source: English File Upper-Intermediate, OUP, 2007.

What did you think about the text above?

Do you agree with the psychologists? Why?

Based on the text above, answer the following questions:

1. What factor did people use to believe was responsible for the differences between men and women? _____
2. In practical terms, what did this belief mean to both genders?
That can _____
and men _____
3. What was proved by recent scientific research? _____
4. In the experiment made, women were able to read a passage aloud and at the same time tap on the table with one finger, and maintaining a constant speed with both hands. Why couldn't men do the same? _____

Try to sum up in one sentence the main idea of the text.

How to express wishes and regrets?

Expressing Wishes **I wish/ If only + simple past**

To express wishes for the present we use the structure

e.g. My wife can do several things at the same time.

I **can't** do same. I **wish I could** multitask as she does.

Let's see other examples. See how the man expresses his wishes:

It **is** scorching hot now. I **wish it was** cooler.

My horse is dead now. I **wish it wasn't** dead.

I don't have any more water to drink. **If only I had** some.

I'm so tired now. **I wish I wasn't** so tired.

Did you notice the difference? Let's do some activities:

1. What a beautiful house! I wish I (have) _____ a house like that.
2. Tom doesn't play football well. He wishes he (play) _____ well.
3. I am sorry I don't know how to use the computer. If wish I (know) _____ how to use one.
4. I wish I (be) _____ rich. . I would buy a farm and enjoy the calm of the countryside.
5. If only I (live) _____ in a bigger city. I would have more opportunities to have fun.
6. If only I (not /have) _____ work today. I would be able to go to the beach.
7. If only I (know) _____ what was in the exam, then I could revise properly for it."

Think of 3 things you would like to be different in your housechores.

I wish/ If only + simple past

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Now let's talk about wishes and complains.



Less complaining and more action. Fonte: <https://www.askideas.com>.

Sometimes, something in the present **disturbs or annoys** and you wish it changed, it was different. When you express wish with impatience, annoyance or dissatisfaction use the structure:

I wish / If only + would + verb

e.g. I wish **you would stop** chewing gum when when I'm talking to me. (It really bothers me.)

Now do the same with the following sentences:

1. I wish you (not/ leave) _____ your clothes on the floor.
2. If only you (not /make) _____ such a mess in your bedroom.
3. I wish it (stop) _____ raining. I can't go jogging with a weather like this.
4. I wish you (not/spend) _____ some much money on clothes. Look at all the debts we have!
5. I wish you (not/arrive) so late all the time (I really annoys me)



Be positive the most. Fonte: <http://www.quotemaster.org>.

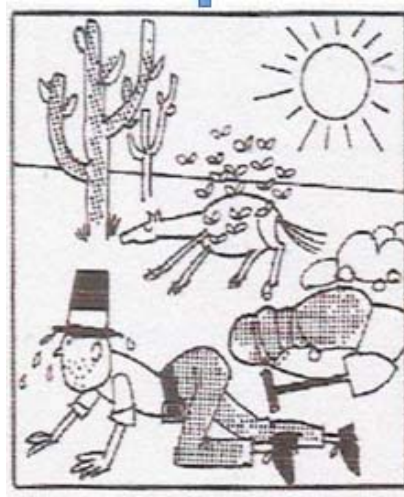
Are you the kind of person who always regrets about something?

To express regret for something that happened in the past, we can do it in several ways.

A. With the structure: **I wish / If only + had/had + past participle of the verb**

Look at the image bellow and see what the man is saying. He is going through a very difficult time because of decisions he made in the past. Now he is regretting them

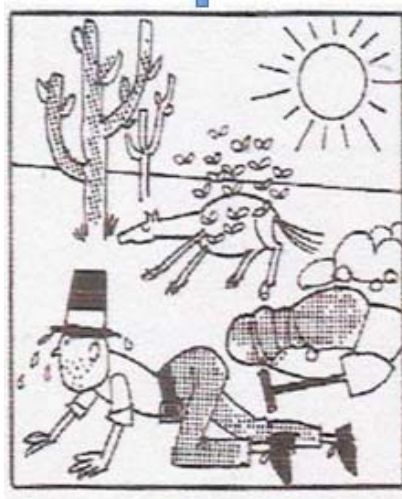
- **I wish I had not decided** to cross the desert alone.
- **I wish I hadn't drunk** all the water so fast.
- It's really hot now. **I wish I'd (had) started** this journey at night.
- **I wish my horse hadn't died.**



Now do the same with the sentences below. The first one has been done for you.

1. She wishes he (never/ask) had never asked to marry her. She's very unhappy in her marriage.
2. Alice didn't get a good grade. She wishes she (study) _____ harder.
3. I was speeding when he had an accident. If only (no/ drive) _____ so fast.
4. I stayed at work late and missed the last bus. I wish I (not/stay) _____ so late.
5. I'm hungry. I wish I (eat) _____ a proper breakfast.
6. My brother isn't speaking to me. I wish I (not/shout) _____ at him.
7. If only (wear) _____ a coat. It was freezing in the

B Expressing Regrets I shouldn't + have + past participle



Another way to express regrets in English is with the structure This man decided to cross the desert alone.

Here are some of the things he regrets:

1. I **shouldn't have traveled** alone.
2. I **shouldn't have drunk** all the water so fast.
3. I **should have brought** a knife with me. I would be able to get some sap from those cactuses.
4. I shouldn't have come during the day. The sun is too hot

Follow the examples above and do the same with the following sentences.

1. I (invite) _____ so many people to our party! I'm worried that we won't have enough food for everyone.
2. I (join) _____ you at the restaurant last night, but we couldn't get a babysitter.
3. Ann (leave) _____ home earlier. She missed her flight.
4. You (take) _____ this job. I can see you're not enjoying it.
5. Our neighbor (cut) _____ their tree in the garden. It was a really beautiful tree.

This is our last activity. Match the sentences on the left to the sentences on the right.

1. My brother is always wearing my shoes.	() I wish I had locked it.
2. I crashed my car when I was driving and talking on the mobile.	() I wish I were older.
3. I was turned down for the job.	() I wish he didn't do that.
4. My car was stolen.	() I wish we had arrived earlier.
5. I have to go to work on Monday.	() I wish they had accepted me.
6. You shouldn't have treated her like that.	() I wish I hadn't drunk so much.
7. I'm seventeen years old.	() I wish it were a holiday.
8. We couldn't watch the show because there weren't any tickets left.	() I wish I hadn't used the mobile.
9. I have a hangover.	() I wish I had more money.
10. I can't buy that car.	() I wish you had been nicer.

CONCLUSION

Chegamos ao final de nossa aula e abordamos algumas das muitas maneiras de expressar *Wishes and Regrets* através de estruturas gramaticais diferentes. As mudanças nas estruturas gramaticais: *I wish/ If only + simple past / I wish/ If only + would+ verb / I wish / If only + had/ had + past participle of the verb*, muda o sentido no momento de expressar o desejo ou arrependimento.

Mantenha sua atenção e faça os exercícios que ajudam na consolidação do assunto.



SUMMARY

Apresentamos nesta lição um texto que a partir das estruturas acima aprendidas é necessário saber fazer uso de forma contextualizada de cada uma. Para isto, além de estudar o material proposto é preciso que você, como aluno, pesquise e participe das atividades postada no AVA para ter maior rendimento. Faça um resumo da unidade para ter uma melhor compreensão.



SELF-EVALUATION

1. Consigo entender o uso da estrutura de expressing wishes and complains?
2. Sei me expressar em ambas as situações?
3. Qual a diferença de uma para a outra?
4. Estou seguro de minhas respostas anteriores?



NEXT CLASS

Linking Words, elas são responsáveis pela conexão de ideias, pensamento do autor na construção de um texto. A ênfase desta aula será dada nos marcadores de causa e efeito, porém uma tabela apresentará os outros casos.

REFERENCE

LATHAM-KOENIG, Christiana; OXENDEN, Clive. **English File: Upper -Intermediate Student's Book**. Oxford University Press, 2005